FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-176
Wednesday
13 September 1989

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-176 13 September 1989

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

King Fahd Comments on Tripartite Committee *[SPA]* 1
Arab League Foreign Ministers Meet in Tunis 2
Meeting Opens 12 Sep 2
Tariq 'Aziz Addresses Session *[INA]* 2
Omani Minister Speaks *[Muscat Radio]* 3
Draft Resolution on Iraq *[INA]* 4
Council Approves Draft Law *[INA]* 4
Council Session Ends *[Tunis Radio]* 4

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Interviewed on UN Visit, Nonaligned *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 9 Sep]* 5
'Arafat Adviser on PLO Appeal to UN, Others *[Algiers VOP]* 6
Spokesman Says Committee Rejects Mubarak Plan *[KUNA]* 6
PNC Official Comments on 10-Point Plan *[MENA]* 6
PNC Speaker Rejects Conditions on Jerusalem *[SAWT AL-SHA'B 13 Sep]* 7
Spokesman Comments on Abu-Sharif Statements *[MENA]* 7
Intifadah Leaders Comment on Peace Prospects *[AL-AHRAM 10 Sep]* 7
DFLP Official Criticizes Egyptian Peace Plan *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 8
'Atallah 'Atallah on Ties With Jordan, Peace *[AL-QUDS 11 Sep]* 8

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Avant-Garde Socialist Party Officially Recognized *[AFP]* 10
Commentary on Role, Function of Prime Minister *[APS]* 10

Egypt

Former Israeli Minister Eban Arrives in Cairo *[MENA]* 10
Ends Visit 12 Sep *[MENA]* 10
Omani Military Delegation Arrives in Cairo *[MENA]* 11
Visits AOI Subsidiaries *[MENA]* 11
Guinea-Bissau President Departs 11 Sep *[MENA]* 11
Abu-Ghazalah Meets FRG Minister in Bonn *[AL-AKHBAR 7 Sep]* 11
FRG Aid To Increase *[AL-WAFD 9 Sep]* 11
Rwandan Foreign Minister Begins Visit 9 Sep *[MENA]* 11
Meets With Abu-Talib *[MENA]* 12
Sudanese Trade Minister Arrives in Cairo *[MENA]* 12
PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen To Visit 18 Sep *[MENA]* 12
Deputy Prime Minister Comments on Visit to Libya *[MENA]* 12
Foreign Oil Companies To Explore New Areas *[AL-AKHBAR 10 Sep]* 12
IDB To Extend $40 Million Loan for Projects *[AL-AHRAM 7 Sep]* 13
Papers Highlight Mufti Ruling on Savings *[Cairo Radio]* 13

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi on Progress Since Revolution *[AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI 4-10 Sep]* 13

Morocco

Mozambican Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit 24
Brings Chissano Message *[MAP]* 24
Meets With Filali *[MAP]* 24
French Foreign Ministry Official Arrives 25
Comments on Lebanon *[Rabat Radio]* 25
Holds Talks, Departs *[MAP]* 25
Shaykh Zayid Arrives in Rabat on Private Visit *[WAKH]* 25

Sudan

NSRCC Leader Visits Northern Town of Atbara 25
Vows to Revamp Railways *[Omdurman Radio]* 25
Discusses Special Courts *[Omdurman Radio]* 26
National Conference Reviews Religion, Race *[BBC]* 26
Conference Asks Movement To Send Representative *[Omdurman Radio]* 27
SPLA Calls Peace Committee 'Comical' *[Radio SPLA]* 27
Ousted Regime Member To Go on Trial 14 Sep *[AFP]* 28
'Ali Shummu Cited on Negotiations With Garang *[Jeddah AL-MADINAH 9 Sep]* 28
Culture Minister Shummu Receives Omani Envoy *[Omdurman Radio]* 29
Dam Project Declined Because of Lack of Funds *[Omdurman Radio]* 29
ELF Thanks Government for Efforts in Eritrea *[SUNA]* 29
Special Court Sentences Marijuana Dealers *[SUNA]* 29

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Kuwait

Minister Calls for Stronger Ties With Iran *[IRNA]* 30
Amir Briefs Cabinet on Nonaligned Summit *[KUNA]* 30

Yemen Arab Republic

President Salih Receives Syria's Khaddam *[Sanaa Radio]* 30
Salih, Al-Qadhdhafi Discuss Arab Issues, Ties *[Sanaa Radio]* 30

IRAQ

Saddam Husayn Receives Zambian Defense Minister *[INA]* 31
Tariq 'Aziz Returns From Arab League Meetings *[INA]* 31
Interior Ministry Statement on Security Efforts *[AL-JUMHURIYAH 9 Sep]* 31
Local Version of T-74 Tank Under Production *[MENA]* 31
Votes Tallied in Kurdistan Council Elections 31
Final Results Announced *[Voice of the Masses]* 31
Jasim Reviews Elections *[INA]* 32

ISRAEL

Paper Blames U.S. for 'Stalled' Peace Process *[AL-FAJR 11 Sep]* 33
Sinyurah on U.S.-PLO Dialogue, Egypt's Role *[AL-FAJR 11 Sep]* 33
Washington Seeking To 'Revive' Election Plan *[HA'ARETZ 12 Sep]* 34
U.S. Embassy Employees Arrested for Visa Plan *[Jerusalem Radio]* 35
U.S. Deputy Consul's Car 'Set on Fire' *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 35
Reaction to Egypt's 10-Point Peace Plan 35
Defense Minister Comments *[Jerusalem Radio]* 35
Arens on 10-Point Plan *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 36
Further on Arens Comments *[Jerusalem TV]* 36
Likud Faction's Reaction *[Jerusalem Radio]* 37
Ben-Aharon on 10 Points *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 37
Abu-'Ayyash on Mubarak's Plan *[AL-QUDS 10 Sep]* 38

Justice Minister Comments *[Tel Aviv TV]* 39
Abu-Rahmah on 10-Point Plan *[Jerusalem TV]* 40
Editorial on Peace Proposal *[AL-SHA'B 12 Sep]* 41
USSR's Aytmatov Urges Resumption of Ties *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 41
Meets With Arens *[Jerusalem Radio]* 41
Polish President Criticizes Shamir's Remarks *[THE JERUSALEM POST 12 Sep]* 41
Palestinians Seek Permission To Discuss Elections *[HADASHOT 10 Sep]* 42
Increased Syrian Activity in Lebanon Noted *[Jerusalem Radio]* 42
Labor Party Deputy Denies Spy Swap Involvement *[Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG 8 Sep]* 43
El Al Plans Charter Flight to Soviet Georgia *[HADASHOT 10 Sep]* 43
Commander Describes Changes in Army Training *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 43
Bethlehem Communique on Meeting Administration *[Jerusalem Radio]* 44
Gaza Port Opens; 2d Khan Yunus Port Planned *[DAVAR 12 Sep]* 44
Abu-Rahmah Condemns Killings in Territories *[HA'ARETZ 11 Sep]* 44
Shomron Bans Use of Force as Penal Measure *[Jerusalem Radio]* 45
No Magnetic Cards for West Bank Residents *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 12 Sep]* 45
2 Arabs Sentenced for Trying To Attack Army Camp *[Jerusalem Radio]* 45
Arab Working for Army Held as Uprising Activist *[Jerusalem Radio]* 45
Arab Woman Sentenced for Killing Student *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 46
3 Wounded in Territories Amid General Strike *[Jerusalem TV]* 46
Masked Criminals 'Terrorizing' Residents *[HADASHOT 10 Sep]* 46
Palestinian Admits To Stabbing Bus Driver *[Jerusalem Radio]* 46
Admits To Killing Jew *[Jerusalem Radio]* 46
Prisoner Attempts Escape; Bomb in Khan Yunus *[Jerusalem Radio]* 46
'Terrorists' in Har Dov Incident Intercepted *[Jerusalem Radio]* 47
Body in Qaddum Said Victim of 10 Sep Clash *[Jerusalem Radio]* 47
'Terrorist' Killed in South Lebanon Clash *[Jerusalem Radio]* 47
1 Wounded in Gaza Strip; Another Body Found *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 47
Update on Incidents in Territories 11, 12 Sep *[THE JERUSALEM POST 12 Sep]* 47
Palestine Bank Branch Reopens in Khan Yunus *[AL-FAJR 11 Sep]* 48
Trade Deficit Continues To Decline in Aug *[Jerusalem Radio]* 48
Tourism Up 3.5 Percent in 1st 8 Months of 1989 *[THE JERUSALEM POST 11 Sep]* 48
Unemployment Increases 3.4 Percent in Aug *[THE JERUSALEM POST 12 Sep]* 48
350 'Nationalistic' Crimes in North in 1989 *[Jerusalem Radio]* 49
Correction to Draft List of Palestinian Delegation 49

JORDAN

Prince Says Amman Agrees With Egypt's 10 Points *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 50
Prime Minister Meets Syrian Transport Minister *[JORDAN TIMES 12 Sep]* 50
Syrian Minister Leaves Amman *[Amman Radio]* 50
PDRY Leader Concludes 3-Day Visit to Amman *[SAWT AL-SHA'B 12 Sep]* 50
Jardanah Outlines Debt Rescheduling Agreement *[JORDAN TIMES 12 Sep]* 51
Jordan To Float $50 Million in Bonds in U.S. *[Amman Radio]* 51
Chemical Complex Planned for Dead Sea *[JORDAN TIMES 12 Sep]* 52

LEBANON

Birri Expresses 'Optimism' for Cease-Fire *[Beirut Radio]* 53
Fighting in Beirut, Forest Areas Continues *[RFL]* 53
Further on 'Heavy Fighting' *[RFL]* 53
More on Clashes in Mountain *[Voice of National Resistance]* 53
Fighting Continues in Beirut *[RFL]* 53
Fadlallah's Home Hit *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 54
Hizballah Radio Reports on Offensive Against Afqa *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 54
Israeli, Resistance Activities in South Reported *[Beirut Radio]* 54

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Najibullah Speech on Nonaligned Summit Results *[BAKHTAR]* 55

Najibullah Would Welcome King's Return *[Delhi Radio]* 57
Mujahidin Premier Rules Out Role for Ex-King *[Islamabad Radio]* 58
Letter Issued Accepting New Soviet Ambassador *[Kabul Radio]* 58
Mujahidin Reportedly Advance Toward Khowst *[Islamabad Radio]* 58
Armed Forces Consolidate Positions in Khowst *[Kabul Radio]* 58
Mujahidin Leader on Rebel Defense Ministry *[Islamabad Radio]* 58
Rebel Rockets Damage UN Plane in Kabul *[AFP]* 58
Kabul Supply Convoy Fails To Reach Qandahar *[Islamabad Radio]* 59

Bangladesh

President Ershad Returns From Belgrade Summit *[Dhaka International]* 59
Iran's Velayati Arrives for 1-Day Visit 13 Sep *[AFP]* 59
Trade Talks With India End; Agreement Extended *[Dhaka Radio]* 59
Former Ministers Form New Political Party *[AFP]* 59

India

Steps Taken To Check Bangladesh Refugee Influx *[Delhi Radio]* 60
Bangladesh Accused of Masterminding Riots *[PATRIOT 7 Sep]* 60
Significance of Opposition Strike Assessed *[PATRIOT 3 Sep]* 61
Minister Denies Report on Spy Satellite *[Delhi Radio]* 62
3 Killed by 'Terrorists;' Arms Seized in Punjab *[Delhi Radio]* 62
6 'Terrorists' Killed, 2 Arrested in Punjab *[Delhi Radio]* 62
2 Maoist Extremists Killed in Andhra Pradesh *[Delhi Radio]* 62

Iran

Fuladi Urges No Release for Britain's Cooper *[IRNA]* 62
UK-Iran Moves Examined *[Tehran Radio]* 63
Transformation of Administrative System Planned *[IRNA]* 63
Majlis Commission Refutes Khorasani Statement *[IRNA]* 64
Security Council Debates Security Issues 11 Sep *[Tehran Radio]* 64
Rafsanjani Resignation as Forces Chief Lauded *[TEHRAN TIMES 3 Sep]* 64
Paper Calls for 'Steadfastness' Against U.S. *[ETTELAT'AT 31 Aug]* 64
Karrubi Receives USSR Congratulatory Message *[Tehran Radio]* 65
Soviet Call for New Iranian Policy Rebuffed *[KEYHAN HAVAI 6 Sep]* 65
Soviet Azarbayjanis Invited to Tabriz Ceremony *[Tehran Radio]* 65
New UN Commander Inspects Cease-Fire Lines *[Tehran Radio]* 66
No Breakthrough Seen in 'Stalled' Peace Talks *[TEHRAN TIMES 5 Sep]* 66
Navy Chief Queried, Praises Training Facilities *[Tehran Radio]* 66
Energy Minister Interviewed, Returns From Turkey *[Tehran Radio]* 67
Saudi Daily Claims Iran Behind Egyptian Group *[IRNA]* 67
SWAPO Leader Pays Visit, Talks With Leaders 68
Support for Namibia *[IRNA]* 68
$200,000 Donated to SWAPO *[IRNA]* 68
Nujoma Meets Ahmad Khomeyni *[Tehran Radio]* 68
Nujoma Ends Visit 11 Sep *[IRNA]* 69
Guards Discover Opium in Village, Make Arrests *[Tehran Radio]* 69
Three Smugglers Arrested With Opium, Heroin *[Tehran Radio]* 69
IRNA Updates Narcotic Network Discoveries 69

Pakistan

Negotiations Completed for French Nuclear Plant *[Islamabad International]* 70
Scientists To Assess Nuclear Plant Damage *[Islamabad Radio]* 70
Daily Welcomes Indigenous Nuclear Reactor Plan *[DAWN 20 Aug]* 70
Paper Urges Better Relations With USSR *[HAIDER 29 Aug]* 71
Natural Gas Deposit Discovered in Upper Sind *[Islamabad Radio]* 71

Sri Lanka

Reportage on Government's All-Party Conference 71
EPRLF Objects to LTTE at Talks *[Delhi TV]* 71
JVP Not To Attend *[Delhi Radio]* 72
SLFP To Attend Conference *[Colombo Radio]* 72
All-Party Conference Begins *[Delhi Radio]* 72
10-Day Schedule Drawn Up *[Delhi Radio]* 73
23 Subversives Surrender; 3 Arrests Made *[Colombo Radio]* 73

Inter-Arab Affairs

King Fahd Comments on Tripartite Committee

LD1209071389 Riyadh SPA in Arabic
2121 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 11 Sep (SPA)—King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, has expressed optimism with the second round of the efforts of the higher tripartite Arab committee, which is charged with treating the Lebanese crisis, in light of the meetings of the foreign ministers of the countries belonging to the committee, which will be held—God willing—the day after tomorrow, Wednesday, in the city of Jeddah.

In an interview which will be published by 'UKAZ and AL-BILAD tomorrow, Tuesday, he said that the present circumstances are encouraging, and we are naturally optimistic because we believe that God is with all sincere efforts being exerted for the sake of the tragedy-ridden people of Lebanon, the saving of innocent lives, and the stopping of fratricide.

The custodian of the two holy mosques emphasized that the indicators leading him toward this optimism are his feeling that all sides are more convinced of the necessity of continuing the efforts in search of the appropriate solutions. In this respect, he pointed out that this means there is goodwill to exit from the present situation, and to continue to intensify the efforts.

He added: "We are determined—God Almighty willing—to find the final solutions to a tragedy which, more than at any time before, everyone agrees needs ending."

He pointed out that no one should imagine that a complex problem such as that of Lebanon, with all its ramifications, could end overnight.

He emphasized, however, that the tripartite committee has not spared any effort or means in the service of the noble objective of halting the destruction that has beset Lebanon and affects everyone.

The beloved King pointed out that the tripartite committee's efforts have received a tangible response from all the parties concerned with the crisis, as well as from all Arab and Muslim countries and peoples and the international community. He—may God protect him—went on: "The tripartite committee has responded to the persistent calls and the intensified contacts on the need for the committee to resume its efforts since everyone has come to the conclusion that the committee is the best chance and presents the most suitable means for dealing with the crisis." King Fahd expressed his thanks for all the parties concerned with the Lebanese crisis and showed his appreciation for the collective determination that has understood the weight of the task and affirmed the need to bolster and help the committee. The custodian of the holy mosques described the difference in the viewpoints, stances, and visions on similar issues as a natural thing. He went on, saying: "The committee initially was formed to exert good offices to bring closer the views of the various parties in order to reach a common view. Otherwise, there was no need for this Arab effort at this higher level."

He—may God protect him—affirmed that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia believes in the committee's insistence on consecrating Arab brotherhood and common fate because they are forces of strong impetus in the direction of eliminating contradictions and confronting problems with frankness and objectivity, as well as safeguarding the higher Arab interest.

The custodian of the two holy mosques pointed out the new axes from which the committee would proceed in order to confront the complexity of the situation and its recent reprecussions from the existence of a common will and a strong determination to spare Lebanon more destruction and ruin. He—may God protect him—said: "We should give the foreign ministers of the three countries, who are due to meet in Jeddah the day after tomorrow, Wednesday, enough time to meet, consult, and exchange viewpoints in light of the latest developments and data."

King Fahd expressed his belief that the natural and spontaneous progress of facing up to the Lebanese crisis is necessary, as it will be possible to find a lasting solution in the end.

He said: "No one of us has any goal or interest that contradicts the interests of Lebanon and the Lebanese people, the stability of the region, or the safety of all."

He stressed that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is part of the tripartite committee. He indicated that we have ideas and opinions, while emphasizing that both King Hassan II and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid also have ideas in this connection.

He added: "Undoubtedly, all these viewpoints put together are constructive views and are aimed at serving the interests of Lebanon and its people. They will not be directed against anybody, nor would they be at the expense of anyone." He pointed out that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has firm and strong relations with all the Lebanese—Muslims, and Christians alike, with Muslim Sunnis or Shiites, with the Druze, and with other Christian factions.

He said that it will give us pleasure for our relations to remain good and strong with all Lebanese because we in Saudi Arabia feel that we have the interest of each single Lebanese at heart. It is in no one's interest that differences among its various factions should continue forever.

The custodian of the two holy mosques expressed his awareness that the solution of the Lebanese crisis cannot come from outside Lebanon.

King Fahd continued his interview saying: "Consequently, and while we are aware that there are some interests that impose themselves on the Lebanese reality,

we should stress that the Lebanese are capable of providing the suitable circumstances for reaching a solution, preventing any foreign interference, and barring the way to pressure to influence their country and the future of their homeland."

King Fahd stressed that the clear challenge the tripartite committee should confront immediately is to work toward a comprehensive, serious, nonnegotiable, and unhestitating cease-fire in Lebanon. In this respect, he said that such a good basis is necessary for the committee to move with great strength and determination. He expressed the view that everyone desires the committee to move quickly and to treat the situation with total passion and understanding.

King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz expressed the hope that everyone will provide the committee with the chance to work and to explore every possibility with the aim of opening the closed doors.

He said: "We will hear all points of view and will use all the views, notes, and imagination in our possessions in order to bring the brothers together and to clear up the atmosphere from all that has affected it as a result of the escalation of the situation." He added that the committee cannot work in a climate that lacks trust and love.

The custodian of the two holy mosques said that he personally did not agree to participate in the tripartite committee, not because he felt the crisis was too complex, but because he was convinced that the climate was not such as to encourage the finding of a solution.

However, he went on to say: "But I agreed to participate because I knew the extent of the confidence of the Lebanese people and their leaders in the three leaders and also their great appreciation of the kingdom as a country that harbors love and good for everyone and does not have any disputes or problems with anyone."

He pointed out that the committee will be very happy to achieve a speedy harmony in points of views now that it has become clear to everyone that the higher tripartite Arab committee was conceived only to surmount the obstacles. In this respect, he emphasized that the committee will be able to do that only if everyone cooperates with it. He said: "We think that that is now possible, to an extent which makes us optimistic." [passage omitted]

Arab League Foreign Ministers Meet in Tunis

Meeting Opens 12 Sep

LD1209223789 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Excerpts] This morning in Tunis, the 92d ordinary session of the Arab League Ministerial Council, at foreign minister level, opened.

At 1000 the Arab League Ministerial Council began the proceedings of its 92d ordinary session. Mr Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, handed over the chairmanship of the new session to Mr Yusuf Ibn-'Alawi Ibn-'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs. [passage omitted]

Mr Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, delivered a speech during this opening session in which he reviewed the latest developments in the Arab arena, and the horizons of the common Arab action.

When talking about the Arab situation, the secretary general indicated that during the Casablanca summit, Arab leaders endeavored to clear the atmosphere among themselves. They stressed that serious dialogue is the only way to bring closer all points of views, and that the common Arab action is the sole method to overcome all obstacles.

Mr Chedli Klibi ended his speech by saying that the matter is within our grasp thanks to intensified efforts to consolidate solidarity and build bridges based on effective cooperation. The league is capable of facing up to the international changes and the challenges of national security. [passage omitted]

Tariq 'Aziz Addresses Session

JN1209124889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Tunis, 12 Sep (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has urged Iran to abandon its selective approach, its maneuvering stand, and its false propaganda campaigns, and to go, together with Iraq, to the true direct negotiating table under the auspices of the UN secretary general to achieve a lasting and comprehensive peace.

Addressing the opening session of the Arab League Council's meetings here today in his capacity as chairman of the council's 92d session, Tariq 'Aziz called for putting an end to the suffering of POW's and their families, and stressed that Iran's exploitation of this humanitarian issue to achieve political goals is illegal and immoral and calls for denunciation.

The foreign minister stressed the Arab League Council's rejection of the state of no-war, no-peace between Iraq and Iran and the partial solutions that entrench this state of affairs. He referred to the Arab Casablanca summit's support for Iraq's legitimate rights and its clear stand toward peace.

Tariq 'Aziz said that respecting Lebanon's unity, independence, and sovereignty, and rejecting any form of trusteeship over it is a basic principle that one should not relinquish or tolerate. He said the Arab states cannot accept any form of trusteeship over Lebanon, privileges in it, or the presence of any Arab or non-Arab military force in that country. He expressed support for the Higher Tripartite Committee's efforts on Lebanon and for the results of its efforts and deductions that were included in its final communique.

He pointed out that the situation in Lebanon is still harboring all serious possibilities, which not only threaten Lebanon, but the entire pan-Arab security despite the Arab summit's resolutions and the higher tripartite committee's efforts. He called for action to implement the Casablanca summit's resolutions and to assume responsibilities toward this issue regardless of the efforts it would take.

The minister said that the Casablanca summit resolutions on Lebanon are clear and frank and do not tolerate any interpretation after they have tackled the Lebanese crisis from a principled pan-Arab angle, namely that Lebanon is an Arab country and a fully independent founding member of the Arab League despite the current differences in it. He said that the Arab nation will continue to view Lebanon as a unified country that enjoys full sovereignty.

The foreign minister affirmed that the continuation of the valiant Palestinian intifadah [uprising] daily confirms the impossibility of maintaining the Israeli occupation. This also confirms the firmness of the strong willpower of the Palestinian people as regards exercising their right to self-determination and establishing their independent state.

'Aziz added that the 91st session of the Arab League Council as well as the Arab summit strongly supported the Palestinian intifadah and the PLO leadership's initiatives.

Tariq 'Aziz called for continuing the political, financial, and other types of support for the popular intifadah and for the Palestinian leadership, considering that this is a basic pan-Arab task.

Omani Minister Speaks

JN1209142789 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Yusuf Ibn-'Alawi Ibn-'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs and chairman of the 92d session of the Arab League Council, delivered a speech at the opening session in which he expressed his happiness over the sultanate's chairmanship of the current session of the Arab League Council. In his speech, he welcomed the sincere efforts exerted by the Arab League secretary general for the sake of the Arab causes. He also welcomed the participation of the Egyptian delegation in this session. He said that Egypt enjoys a political weight that contributes to strengthening the joint Arab action, supporting the Arab solidarity, and achieving the Arab nation's aspirations to power and dignity.

In his speech 'Alawi Ibn-'Abdallah added that there are important developments and serious events in the Arab arena that should be assessed at the highest degree of responsibility so that we can avert the dangers threatening our nation, support the Arab solidarity, achieve our goal in entrenching the bases of peace and security in our region, and provide prosperity and progress for our peoples. He said that the Arab nation is capable of confronting the challenges and that the current circumstances require us to mobilize our energies to find frameworks and ways to achieve the nation's aspirations, respond to the challenges facing it, and find realistic and applicable solutions.

In his speech, his excellency added that the Arab nation should take a responsible position to confront the situation in Lebanon, which has experienced the worst period in the civil war, the destruction of Beirut, the mass evacuation of thousands of people, and the emergence of political complications caused by all the local and international parties. He added that despite the Arab tripartite committee's efforts, the parties to the dispute in Lebanon have not cooperated to allow the committee to achieve what we wish for Lebanon: Stability, security, and safety. He said that while reviewing this issue during this session to stress our countries' support for the Arab committee—entrusted with the task of following up the situation—we should say that the committee has not obtained the required response from the concerned parties and that the Arab support for it over the past period was insufficient.

He also voiced his happiness over achieving success for the Palestine question in the Palestinian and international arenas as a result of the wisdom of the Palestinian leaders and the courage of the people of the Palestinian intifadah [uprising] in the occupied territories, adding that the issue has imposed itself on the enemies before the friends.

The minister of state for foreign affairs said that during this session the Arab countries should make every effort to promote the Palestinian intifadah, strengthen its role, and give it political support in the international arena and that discussions on the Palestine question must lead to more success. He added that it is our duty to work together to enable the next session of the United Nations to put pressure on Israel to stop demolishing houses, expelling Palestinian citizens from their country and homes, and using the policy of starvation, blackmail, and terrorism.

In his speech, the minister of state for foreign affairs said that all the Arab countries welcomed an end to the Iran-Iraq war, voicing his conviction that halting the war between the two neighbors is necessary to bring about peace in the Arabian Gulf, eliminate the factors for tension in this important part of the world, and establish a just and lasting peace based on good neighborliness, respect for national sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs, and respect for regional safety for all the region's countries.

He also urged international and regional efforts to intensify and coordinate the direct negotiations under UN auspices in order to implement Security Council Resolution No 598. He added that the Arabian Gulf countries are aspiring to a comprehensive peace between Iraq and

Iran and that the Arab League should exert every effort to crown the direct negotiations between Iraq and Iran with complete success.

The Omani minister added that during these meetings, discussions will also center on the Arab-European dialogue and the Arab-African cooperation, two important subjects that deserve every interest and care, adding that the Arab countries should assess developments in the Arab-African cooperation and the Arab-European dialogue in light of the political and strategic dimensions that we have set for them.

His excellency also pointed to the developments that occurred in the position of the EEC toward the Palestine question—a position represented in the Madrid Declaration issued by the EEC heads of state and prime ministers on 27 June, 1989, as well as in the statement issued by 15th session of the member states in Paris last June.

Draft Resolution on Iraq

JN1209205689 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1800 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Tunis, 12 Sep (INA)—In its 92d session, the Arab League Council approved a draft resolution calling for continued intensive efforts on both regional and international levels in order to activate the UN-sponsored direct negotiations between Iraq and Iran and to establish a just, comprehensive peace between the two countries.

An INA correspondent in Tunis has learned that a draft resolution drawn up by the Arab League Council political committee here today urges the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 598, given that it constitutes an integrated peace plan, as well as the 8 August 1988 agreement in a manner that guarantees Iraq's inalienable rights and sovereignty over its territory and the Shatt al-'Arab waterway, noninterference in its internal affairs, and the freedom of navigatin in its waters.

The draft resolution supports efforts aimed to entrust the United Nations with clearing the Shatt al-'Arab waterway and making it navigable regardless of the outcome of the Iraq-Iran negotiations.

The draft resolution calls for intensifying efforts on all levels to release the POW's and return them to their homelands in accordance with the provisions of UN Security Council Resolution 598 and the Third Geneva Convention in order to end their human suffering resulting from their continued seizure.

The draft resolution calls on the Iranian regime to respond to the peace appeals and efforts in order to expedite the establishment of a durable, comprehensive, and just peace that enables all peoples of the region to devote their efforts to reconstruction.

The political committee's draft resolution, which will be submitted to the Arab foreign ministers for approval, praises the the UN secretary general's efforts and supports his endeavor to establish peace between the two countries.

Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, head of the Iraqi delegation, responded to the Syrian chief delegate's attempts to introduce amendments into the draft resolution in the interest of its anti-Arab Iranian ally. He affirmed that the draft resolution is based on the Casablanca summit resolution.

He reviewed the developments of the negotiations between Iraq and Iran and held the Iranian regime responsible for obstructing the negotiations and accused it of attempting to divide peace through the resort to the policy of selectivity, maneuvering, and procrastination.

Sa'd Qasim Hammudi affirmed that the Iranian regime has not yet specified its stand on the option of a comprehensive and just peace and continues to imagine that it is able to resume the aggression after it was forced to accept Resolution 598 following the devastating military, political, and ideological defeat inflicted on it by the soldiers of Saddam's glorious battle of al-Qadisiyah.

He called on the Arab delegations to continue to affirm their effective solidarity with Iraq in order to force Iran to move from the state of cease-fire and no-war, no-peace to an urgent and durable comprehensive peace treaty.

He warned against the gravity of opening a gap in Arab struggle that might be exploited by some as happened in the past when the Syrian regime allied itself with the Tehran rulers against Iraq.

Earlier, the Egyptian, Palestinian, Jordanian, Libyan, and Democratic Yemeni chief delegates expressed support for the draft resolution and affirmed the positiveness of the Iraqi stand on peace. They called on Iran to follow Iraq's suit in its honesty and eagerness to achieve a comprehensive settlement between the two countries.

Council Approves Draft Law

JN1209205189 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1915 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Tunis, 12 Sep (INA)--At its 92d session today, the Arab League Council approved an Iraqi draft law calling for joining Arab efforts to apply pressure on all nations that have not yet recognized the Palestinian state. [passage omitted]

Council Session Ends

LD1309060189 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2200 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Excerpt] The Arab League Council ended its second session tonight by approving a number of recommendations related to the joint Arab action in the Arab and international arenas. The council discussed the developments of the Palestinian intifadah [uprising] inside the occupied land and Arab-African cooperation.

Sources close to the meeting said that the political committee, which is due to resume its work at 1000 tomorrow, had evaluated Arab-African cooperation and studied the scope for its developments in light of the results of the standing committee's meeting on Arab-African cooperation held in Kuwait last June. The sources added that the committee's closed session was characterized by the intervention of the representative of the African National Congress, who is attending the council's meeting as an observer, in which he reaffirmed the solidarity of the African anc Arab groups and their determination to struggle against the racist regime in Pretoria and the Zionist one in occupied Palestine. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Interviewed on UN Visit, Nonaligned

PM1209105189 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 9 Sep 89 p 1-2

[Report on interview with Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat by Zaki Shihab in Belgrade; date not given]

[Text] Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has announced that he will leave for New York with the leaders of the nine states which met on the sidelines of the ninth nonaligned summit held in Belgrade in order to discuss ways to reactivate and speed up the convening of the international peace conference with the UN secretary general and the Security Council's permanent member states.

In an interview conducted by AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, President 'Arafat said that it will not be as easy to hold an international conference as some people believe, because nothing is handed to you on a silver platter.

He added that it is not Israel alone which is intransigent, but the United States as well, since it has deliberately ignored the Palestinian peace initiative backed by resolutions from the extraordinary Arab summit held in Casablanca a few month ago. It has continued its backing for Shamir's plan and his government's stances.

He said that that is a strange attitude and alarms us and all peace- and justice-loving people in the world.

Asked whether there were any positive signs on the horizon, President 'Arafat said "undoubtedly there are some positive signs, as we must not forget that U.S. President George Bush has for the first time noted the need to end the Israeli occupation of the occupied Arab territories. And Secretary of States James Baker said something similar about Israel's borders."

He described his meeting with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in Belgrade as aimed at discussing some important and vital issues concerning Palestinian moves at the international level, whether in the UN Security Council or the UN General Assembly.

He added: I briefed the secretary general on the crimes being committed against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, where Israel is trying hard to apply the Shamir plan by besieging our people in the strip, using all means of repression and terror, including starvation..., yes, starvation.

He also said: I am saying this in order for the entire world, including my Arab brothers, to hear me. There is a famine in Gaza, a famine in Gaza, a famine in Gaza. I have given notice, O God, bear witness.

Regarding what is required of the United States in order to speed up the peace process, President 'Arafat said: If the United States wants to play the role of a mediator, then it has no right to declare its adoption of Shamir's plan, especially in the way it was expressed by John Kelly in the U.S. Congress. He [not specified] said: "Whoever adopts such a biased stand loses his right to be a mediator, especially as the Palestinian peace initiative, after its adoption at the extraordinary Casablanca summit, has become an Arab peace initiative, and, consequently, an Arab initiative in every sense of the word."

He added: The U.S. position ignores all the positions of the world's states—including the EEC states and the statement which was issued following their recent summit in Madrid. It also ignores the appeals made by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and French President Francois Mitterrand, as well as the Japanese position and that of the Scandinavian foreign ministers and UN Resolution 176, in addition to the socialist organization's position announced in Bucharest, the Chinese position, and other world positions backing our people's right to freely determine their destiny and establish their independence on their usurped territory.

He also said: Supporting the occupation means in one way or another encouraging further aggression, the continuation of the starvation operation, the deliberate murder of women and children, and the torture of men and confiscation of their freedom.

And about the objective of the talks he led with Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', which were attended by [PLO] Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi and Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine Assistant Secretary Abu-'Ali Mustafa, President 'Arafat said "we spoke about the situation in Lebanon and developments in the region. He informed me that he had informed the tripartite committee about Syria's desire to cooperate with it."

On the return of the tripartite committee entrusted with resolving the Lebanese crisis, he said: I hope it will succeed in its endeavors. In my view, the most important step now is to stop the killing. Lebanon is a fraternal country and has a dear place in every Arab's heart. It is our duty to contribute in one way or another to ending its tragedy. The continuation of the regrettable incidents there will not be confined to it in the future. It will

expand to all the Arab states. And here emerges the need to work in earnest to stop the shelling and establish a dialogue among the groups in preparation for securing an acceptable formula that preserves Lebanon as a body of unified institutions and as a sovereign territory that has a legitimate authority.

He attributed the PLO's decision to stop contacts between the Palestinian figures inside the occupied territories and the Israeli authorities to "Israel's belief that it can make contacts with any person in the occupied territory, forgetting or ignoring the Palestinian people and their aspirations as well as the PLO as the sole legitimate representative.

He said that Israel must realize that the Palestinian people are one unit, both inside and outside the occupied Arab territory, and have one leadership and the same objectives. This is why when we said "No" to the contacts, the contacts ceased; and when we said "Yes" to meeting Shultz, the meeting took place; and when we said "No," no one met with him.

He added: That confirms that no one can transcend the Palestinian leadership or the Palestinian people and their will. It also confirms their unity which I spoke about earlier.

The head of the Palestinian state considered that by its accepting the Palestinian state as full member of the movement, the Nonaligned Movement has backed, from the bottom of its heart, the Palestinian cause—the Arab's prime cause. In the past the PLO was represented in it as a liberation movement.

He said: They backed our peace initiative and condemned Israel, its intransigence, and its continued crimes against the Palestinian people. They commended the intifadah and its heroes.

Answering another question, he said: Most of the African states—peoples and leaders—sincerely back the Palestinian people's struggle. At the forefront of these is Robert Mugabe, head of the Zimbabwean state, which will chair the Nonaligned Movement over the next 3 years.

President 'Arafat concluded his interview with AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT by thanking all the fraternal and friendly states that supported the Palestinian cause. He also saluted the efforts made by the host state, Yugoslavia, which played a role in piloting the conference ship to safety, as it adopted resolutions in the interests of mankind in general and the people of the Nonaligned Movement in particular.

'Arafat Adviser on PLO Appeal to UN, Others

LD1109213489 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] The political adviser of brother president, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], said that the PLO has launched an appeal to the United Nations, the United Nations Security Council, and U.S. President George Bush to intervene in order to halt the oppressive Zionist measures implemented in Nabulus in the occupied West Bank.

In a radio interview, Brother Bassam Abu Sharif stressed that the situation in Nablus and in all camps around the town is deteriorating every hour as skirmishes are taking place from house to house inside Askar and Balatah camps. In addition, the Zionist occupation authorities have imposed a curfew this morning in Askar and Balatah camps. He indicated that the government of the terrorist Shamir has taken a number of measures aimed at punishing major towns in the West Bank and the Palestinian nationals residing in them.

With regard to the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue, Abu Sharif stated that this dialogue will continue because the United States, in its capacity as a superpower, has agreed with the Soviet Union and other countries to find a political solution to the Middle East issue. He indicated that the PLO attaches importance to creating dialogue with all political sides concerned with the conflict in the Middle East. Abu Sharif stated that the PLO has strong relations with Israeli progressive parties and forces who call for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and its right to establish an independent state on the territories from which Israel should withdraw.

Spokesman Says Committee Rejects Mubarak Plan

LD1309091989 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0831 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 13 Sep (KUNA)—Sulayman al-Najjab, member of the PLO Executive Committee, said that at a meeting held yesterday in Tunis chaired by Yasir 'Arafat the committee rejected the 10-point plan presented by Egyptian President Mubarak with regard to holding elections in the occupied territories.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti AL-ANBA' newspaper published today, he added that the committee considered these points "a deviation from the Palestinian peace initiative ratified by the recent Casablanca summit."

In his statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper, Mr al-Najjab said: "Egypt did not consult the PLO about these points, which neither mentioned the PLO nor the Palestinian people's right to self- determination." [passage omitted]

PNC Official Comments on 10-Point Plan

NC1109212289 Cairo MENA in English 1753 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Amman, Sep 11 (MENA)—The ten points, declared by President Husni Mubarak, are clear evidence of the interest of Egypt and its president to reach a solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute that would establish peace in the region, said Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, Palestine National Council (PNC) chief, in an

exclusive statement to MENA correspondent here. Al-Sa'ih called upon Israel to voice clearly its attitude toward the Egyptian initiative.

Though we know that Israel will accept some points, we want to know the Israeli attitude toward all ten points carried in the Egyptian initiative, said al-Sa'ih.

He thanked President Mubarak for his efforts to establish peace in the Middle East and solve the Palestinian issue.

PNC Speaker Rejects Conditions on Jerusalem

JN1309064689 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 13 Sep 89 pp 1, 13

[By Sa'd al-Silawi]

[Text] Amman—Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, speaker of the Palestine National Council [PNC], has disclosed that Israel had previouly offered to allow him to return to and live in Jerusalem providing he does not exercise any effective political activity.

His Eminence Shaykh al-Sa'ih, who was among the first group deported from Palestine in 1967, expressed his readiness to return to and live in occupied Jerusalem. At the same time, he strongly rejects the Israeli conditions that would limit his political activity.

The PNC speaker announced for the first time that for the sake of peace, which is a strategy for Palestinian action, he is completely ready to return to the city of Jerusalem and to stage a struggle against Israel from there.

In an exclusive statement to SAWT AL-SHA'B, he said that if he were to return to Jerusalem, he would not remain idle in his home, as the occupation authorities want, without doing anything or practicing national action to end the Zionist occupation and prepare for the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The PNC speaker said he hoped all the Arab leaders and peoples would support his ideas so that the Palestinian Arab people can enjoy all their rights, especially the right to self-determination and the establishment of a Palestinian state on the national soil. At the same time, he said, this step shows the world that returning to Jerusalem is the demand of all Palestinians and that it is the Zionist force that prevents that national demand and constitutes an obstacle to the just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Spokesman Comments on Abu-Sharif Statements

NC1209142489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Tunis, 12 Sep (MENA)—The PLO official spokesman has emphasized that the statements made by Bassam Abu-Sharif on his readiness to travel to Jerusalem or Tel Aviv do not express the viewpoint of any PLO quarter. The spokesman added that Abu-Sharif is not authorized to make such statements.

It should be recalled that Bassam Abu-Sharif, the press adviser to Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat, had made a statement to an Arab radio station in which he expressed his readiness to travel to Jerusalem or Tel Aviv to discuss peace steps in the region.

Intifadah Leaders Comment on Peace Prospects

JN1209073889 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 10 Sep 89 p 5

["Dialogue" with three unidentified members of the "Unified Leadership of the Intifadah" by Amirah Hasan in Jerusalem; date not given]

[Text] [Hasan] Approximately 2 years have elapsed since the launching of the intifadah [uprising]. How do you see the situation now?

[Answer] As a matter of fact, our people's perspective on the intifadah can be summed up as follows: If some view the continuation of the intifadah as a form of slow death, our people view the halting of the intifadah as a quick death. This affirms that our people are determined to continue the intifadah. Undoubtedly, many people expected a speedy end to the intifadah, which was not expected to last this long. Some of our people expected to score tangible and realistic gains. However, the circumstances surrounding our cause have not allowed this to happen. Hence, our people do not want to halt the intifadah. They seek to maintain it so that the gigantic losses they have sustained might be crowned with a political victory on the ground.

[Hasan] How do you view peace prospects in light of the Israeli intransigence?

[Answer] In fact, peace prospects have become more remote than ever, thanks to the Israeli intransigence and lack of seriousness on the part of the United States. The longer the intifadah continues without achieving any practical and realistic achievements, the more peace will subside with the consequent result of seeing the hardliners win. Therefore, we have continued to appeal to the Israeli public, to the Israeli politicians, and to the United States to be more realistic and serious and to show further cooperation for the sake of vindicating the cause of peace so that the golden opportunity created and matured for them by the Palestinian popular intifadah might not be wasted.

[Hasan] How do you view ties among the Palestinian factions in the intifadah arena?

[Answer] There is no doubt that ties among the Palestinian factions are governed by one fact; namely, that we are all under Israeli occupation. This does not mean that differences do not exist. No, this means that differences

are resolved quickly by wise people through joint coordination, as the termination of the occupation is the aspiration cherished by all.

[Hasan] Was the new policy espoused by the PLO; namely, moderation and the recognition of Israel, a mistake?

[Answer] This new policy; that is, the Palestinian moderation, stemmed from the occupied homeland and not from the Palestinian leadership. The Palestinian leadership merely sought and achieved harmony with our people when it had announced its new stands and decisions. This policy might prove to be correct or mistaken. We have not so far achieved anything on the ground. If something is achieved, then this policy will have proved to be correct and those who proposed and pursued this policy have won. If this policy fails, this will negatively affect peace and all peace advocates in the region.

[Hasan] What is your assessment of the results of the Fatah Congress recently held in Tunis?

[Answer] Those familiar with the atmosphere prevailing before the convening of the congress expected success for the hardliners. However, numerous factors played their role and brought victory for Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] at the Congress. However, this victory is neither absolute nor eternal. We believe this victory might have a time limit of no more than a year from now, to be used as a last chance given to the moderate pro-peace current within the PLO. If no real achievement is attained on the road to achieving peace during this year the hardliners within the Fatah Movement and in the Palestinian arena will win and peace prospects will suffer a serious setback.

DFLP Official Criticizes Egyptian Peace Plan

JN1209133189 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Excerpts] As PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is continuing his consultations in Cairo with President Husni Mubarak and senior officials on the Egyptian plan regarding elections in the occupied Arab territories, Bassam Abu-Sharif, political adviser to 'Arafat, expressed his readiness to go to Jerusalem, his birthplace, or to Tel Aviv to talk to the Israeli Labor Party leaders on the Egyptian proposals, which were supported by 'Arafat, who also stressed the PLO's support for it, according to the Egyptian AL-AKHBAR newspaper. This has led to a split in Israel not only between the Likud and the Labor Party, but also within the Labor Party itself. [passage omitted]

On the Palestinian level, the PLO has disavowed Abu-Sharif's statements. A statement by an official PLO spokesman distributed by WAFA says that Abu-Sharif was not authorized to make such statements, adding that these statements do not reflect the PLO's view.

In another development, a spokesman for the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] announced that the Egyptian 10 points ignore the conditions approved by the Casablanca summit—conditions which stress the need to hold unsponsored elections following the Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian territories. They also ignore the idea of the elections as part of a comprehensive and balanced solution as well as the effective international peace conference on the Middle East, according to the spokesman. He added that the Egyptian plan ignores the PLO's role as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied State of Palestine.

The spokesman urged the Egyptian Government and all the Arab sides to abide by the Casablanca resolutions and support the idea of a comprehensive and just solution, expressing his astonishment over some ideas that conflict with these resolutions and the Palestinian peace initiative. He also said that they revive Shamir's plan and the U.S. unilateral policy which have been deadlocked because of their indifference to the Palestinian people's national rights.

Finally, the DFLP's spokesman stressed the need to abide by the collective Palestinian position approved by the PLO's leadership.

'Atallah 'Atallah on Ties With Jordan, Peace

JN1109080089 Amman AL-QUDS in Arabic 11 Sep 89 pp 1, 11

["Exclusive" report]

[Text] Amman—Brother Abu-al-Za'im ['Atallah 'Atallah], commander in chief of the Corrective Movement in Fatah and the PLO, has affirmed that the Palestinians' relationship with Jordan, as viewed by the Corrective Movement, is an organic historical unity and a constant strategic coalition that considers the assumption of the collective pan-Arab responsibility toward saving the kinfolk and holy places in our occupied land to be at the top of its priorities. He said that the Corrective Movement has specified the dimensions of its peaceful approach toward ending the Israeli occupation on the basis of exchanging land for peace through a UN-sponsored international conference in which all concerned Arab parties participate, including the Palestinians within a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation with the aim of liberating the occupied Arab territories and establishing an independent Palestinian state confederated with Jordan.

Abu-al-Za'im said: This view constitutes the practical approach of the Corrective Movement. We most sincerely, honestly, and truthfully adhere to this approach and work silently and away from propaganda to make it succeed.

He made these remarks on the current circumstances experienced by our Palestine question when he chaired a

general conference of the Corrective Movement's cadres which included the heads and members of the movement's unions and administrative bodies. He added: The Palestine question is currently experiencing a delicate stage requiring vigilance and constant awareness of the Palestinian, Arab, and international developments around us, without any exaggerated positive or negative assessments. He added: This is the only way to entrench our rational approach and maintain our strategy, which has been proved by events to be sound, honest, and aimed at nothing but the good of the homeland and future generations.

The brother commander in chief said: Events of the past years have proved the soundness of our assertion that Israel will not establish a separate peace with the Palestinians and that the Palestinians cannot establish a separate peace with Israel.

Algeria

Avant-Garde Socialist Party Officially Recognized

NC1209203389 Paris AFP in English 2013 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Algiers, Sept 12 (AFP)—Algeria's communist Avant-Garde Socialist Party, which has operated in secrecy since 1965, has been officially recognized by the authorities, a party spokesman said Tuesday.

The spokesman said the decision to legalize the party was taken under the terms of legislation on "associations of a political character" approved in Algeria in July. The party is the second, after the Social Democrat Party, to be legalized in Algeria under the new laws.

The new party has its roots in the Algerian Communist Party, formed in 1935.

Commentary on Role, Function of Prime Minister

LD1209223689 Algiers APS in Arabic 0822 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Algiers, 12 Sep (APS)—One of the main tasks which the president of the Republic takes upon himself, even if it is not written down, is to always listen to the voice of the people. His high duty, which isolates him at the personal level, makes him, by the same token, the man closest to the people and their aspirations. When the citizens are concerned about the uncertainties of tomorrow it is only natural that such a matter attracts his utmost attention and care.

For some months now the citizens have appeared more and more concerned about the numerous effects resulting from the continuing economic crisis sparked off by the mad way in which some commodities suddenly disappeared from the markets. It is sometimes difficult to justify such shortages, and it looks as if we are unable to overcome them. Some apparatuses have been affected by some sort of paralysis when it was necessary to restore order at the grassroots level and reinforce authority at the level of the managerial bodies. Consequently, chaos infiltrated many networks and an atmosphere of doubt and suspicion prevailed in the country, bringing with it the risk of a reaction.

The citizens have to know—and many of them are aware of this—that the country will only recover with much commitment and rigor. The appointment of Mouloud Hamrouche to the post of prime minister thus falls within these aforementioned circumstances.

Truth compels us to say that initiatives and measures must be taken quickly to revive the economy and, at the same time, speed up the completion of political reforms. In this respect, the responsibility of the National People's Assembly becomes all the more obvious; but it must avoid anything that is likely to waste time and concentrate rather on what could serve the country's supreme interests. Therefore, quick action must be taken and it is believed that the new prime minister will know how to make everyone face up to their responsibilities.

The country is going through a phase which requires a lot of effort; and the multiple tasks of development have created new requirements for the entire political system and made its improvement in a democratic manner necessary.

In his first meeting with the press, the new prime minister stressed his determination to give a tangible form to these requirements at all economic, political, and social levels. The sky does not pour out gold, and the situation will not improve if consideration is not again given to realism, discipline, and work with the democratic, active, and effective participation of everybody without exception.

Such a vision falls in line with the directives given by the president of the republic to the new prime minister and which stipulate in particular that his prime concern should be to complete, in the best possible conditions and with determination, the political, economic, and social reforms in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the Constitution.

Egypt

Former Israeli Minister Eban Arrives in Cairo

NC1009214589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2048 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 10 Sep (MENA)—Former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban arrived in Cairo this evening on a 3-day private visit to Egypt.

Eban stated on arrival at Cairo airport that he will meet with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, to exchange views on President Husni Mubarak's 10-point plan and on ways to break the current deadlock and start peace negotiations.

During his visit, Eban will record commentaries on the events that took place between the Arab world and Israel from 1949 to 1989. Dr Butrus Ghali, Ambassador Tahsin Bashir, and Military Commentator Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im will also speak on foreign affairs, diplomatic relations, and military events.

Ends Visit 12 Sep

NC1309051189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2147 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 12 Sep (MENA)—Former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban left Cairo for Israel tonight following a private 2-day visit to Egypt. During the visit Eban met with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Omani Military Delegation Arrives in Cairo

NC1009060889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2143 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA)—An Omani military delegation led by Major Genaral Khamis Ibn-Humayd al-Kalbani, commander of the ground forces, arrived in Cairo tonight. The delegation is visiting Egypt at the invitation of the Egyptian Armed Forces. Senior Armed Forces officers met the delegation at the airport.

Visits AOI Subsidiaries

NC1109194489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 11 Sep (MENA)—General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, chairman of the Arab Organization for Industrialization [AOI], discussed cooperation between his organization and the Sultanate of Oman during his meeting today with Staff Major General Khamis Ibn-Humayd al-Kalbani, commander of the Omani ground forces.

Following the meeting, Staff Maj Gen al-Kalbani and his delegation visited the Saqr Company for Advanced Industries, the Arab American Company for Cars, and the Arab British Company for Dynamic Industries, which are all subsidiaries of the AOI.

The visiting delegation inspected the products of these companies, including the guided and nonguided missiles and their launchers, jeeps, and passenger cars, and the antitank rocket system 'Swing Fire.' The Omani official and his companions also visited the open exhibition at the Saqr Company of the AOI, displaying missile systems, basic and advanced training aircraft, helicopters, engines, armored vehicles, electronic equipment, and other products.

Staff Maj Gen al-Kalbani is scheduled to visit the Abu-Za'bal Company for Engineering Industries of the Ministry of War Production tomorrow. During the visit, the Omani official will inspect the company's latest products of artillery and rocket systems.

Guinea-Bissau President Departs 11 Sep

NC1109092589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0835 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Cairo, 11 Sept (MENA)—President Joao Bernardo of Guinea-Bissau and his wife left Cairo this morning after a 3-day visit to Egypt. President Husni Mubarak and Mrs Mubarak saw him off at the airport. [passage omitted]

Abu-Ghazalah Meets FRG Minister in Bonn

JN0909122289 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 7 Sep 89 p 1

[By Muhammad Fahmi]

[Text] Bonn—Muhammad 'Abd-al-Haiim Abu-Ghazalah, assistant to the president, met with Helmut Shiffer, FRG minister of state for foreign affairs, [name and title as published] yesterday. AL-AKHBAR has learned that the discussion during the meeting dealt with bilateral relations, the results of the Belgrade nonaligned summit, the European role in the Middle East in light of the current detente between the East and the West, and the EEC's humanitarian assistance to the victims of the civil war in Lebanon.

The FRG minister expressed his country's anxiety over the exacerbation of tension and violence in the occupied Palestinian territories and emphasized the importance of supporting moderate voices in the region. He said that from this premise the FRG will hold an official dialogue with the PLO in the next few days.

The meeting was attended by Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of state for prime ministry affairs.

Abu-Ghazalah and Dr 'Ubayd left Bonn yesterday afternoon on their way to Brussels as part of their tour of France, the FRG, Belgium, and Romania.

FRG Aid To Increase

JN1009161289 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 9 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] It has been decided to increase scheduled FRG aid to Egypt for the coming year to DM 268 million, of which 235 million will be in the form of loans and the balance in nonrefundable grants. The Egypt-FRG Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation concluded meetings in Bonn the day before yesterday [7 September].

The deficit in the trade balance between the two countries is estimated at approximately DM 1.643 billion for 1988 compared to DM 1.375 billion for 1987, representing an increase of DM 268 million. The fall in the volume of trade between the two countries is attributed to a decline in Egyptian exports to the FRG by approximately DM 224.4 million, a decline of 40.8 percent.

Rwandan Foreign Minister Begins Visit 9 Sep

NC0909112189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0936 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA)—General Yusuf Sabri Abu Talib, minister of defense and war production, will receive Casimir Bizimungu, Rwandan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, on 10 September. They will discuss relations between the two countries and ways of promoting them, particularly in the military and war production fields.

Casimir Bizimungu arrived in Cairo early today carrying a message from Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana to President Husni Mubarak. During his 6-day visit, Bizimungu will chair the first meeting of the Egyptian-Rwandan joint committee. Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, will chair the Egyptian delegation to these talks.

The Rwandan minister will also hold talks with the minister of economy and ministers of state for emigration and international cooperation. He will also meet with the Egyptian businessmen's society.

Bizimungu will also visit the textile factories in al-Mahallah al-Kubra, Alexandria, and tourist and historical sites in Cairo.

Meets With Abu-Talib

NC1009095689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0804 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 10 Sep (MENA)—General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, minister of defense and war production, met this morning with Casimir Bizimungu, Rwanda's minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, who is currently visiting Cairo.

The meeting, which was also attended by Rwanda's Ambassador to Egypt Celestin Kabanda, centered on ways to promote bilateral cooperation, particularly in the military and war production fields, as part of the good relations between the two countries.

Sudanese Trade Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC0809193389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1759 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 8 Sep (MENA)—Dr Faruq al-Bishri, Sudan's minister of trade, cooperation, and supply, arrived in Cairo today on a 4-day visit to Egypt. During his stay he is expected to sign a protocol for trade cooperation between Egypt and Sudan.

Dr al-Bishri said that Sudan is seeking to further its ties with Egypt to the utmost extent. He added that his visit aims at broadening the scope of trade cooperation to match the scope of cooperation in other fields.

Meanwhile, Economy Minister Dr Yusri Mustafa, who welcomed the Sudanese minister at the airport, said that the talks will center on increasing trade exchange and economic cooperation between the two countries. Mustafa stated that the protocol which will be signed involves trade to the value of 250 million accounting dollars.

PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen To Visit 18 Sep

NC1009091789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0753 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 10 Sep (MENA)—PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen will arrive here from Amman on 18 September for a 3-day visit, carrying a message from Chinese President Yang Shangkun to President Husni Mubarak.

China's Ambassador to Egypt Zhan Shiliang said this visit will be part of Foreign Minister Qian's first tour of the Middle East since he assumed office at the beginning of 1988. The tour will also take him to Jordan, Syria, and Tunisia. He added that the Chinese foreign minister will hold talks with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on the latest international developments, the situation in the Middle East, and bilateral relations as part of the exchange of views and continuing consultations between the two countries.

Deputy Prime Minister Comments on Visit to Libya

NC0809172689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Cairo, 8 Sep (MENA)—Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and secretary general of the National Democratic Party, has declared that the talks he held in Libya helped to bring views closer and further bolster the constructive relations between the two countries.

In an interview with AL-AKHBAR newspaper today, Dr Wali said the meetings he held in the Libyan capital reflected the Libyan political and popular leadership's understanding and appreciation of the objectivity and experience of the Egyptian leadership in handling issues at the African and international levels.

Dr Wali added that during the visit he was aware of the depth and seriousness of the fraternal relations linking the two peoples. [passage omitted]

Foreign Oil Companies To Explore New Areas

JN1109194289 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 10 Sep 89 p 6

[By Khalid Jabr]

[Text] Chemist 'Abd-al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, has decided to open the door for international companies to explore for oil in new areas where no exploration has taken place before.

The petroleum minister asked Dr Hamdi al-Banabi to follow up the search operations north of the Western Desert and the northern coastal waters.

Tariq Hajji, president of the Egyptian Shell companies, has stated that Shell International will start seismic explorations at sea in the areas of Maraqya and Shafiq. This is the first time a petroleum company is committing itself to digging exploratory wells in this area where no prospecting has been done before. The firm is committed to digging three wells in the 5,668 sq km Maraqya region at a cost of $18 million and the digging of another three wells in the 4,396 sq km Shafiq area at a cost of $18 million.

Tariq Hajji added that Shell is enthusiastic about prospecting for oil in these two regions given the success of prospecting in the Western Desert where formations are similar to those thought to exist under the waters of the Mediterranean and off the coast. He said that the company will assess and study the deep sea waters, where prospecting costs in the tens of millions.

The petroleum minister has required that all companies operating in these regions commit themselves to protecting the environment, on the grounds that this asepct is no less important than the oil finds themselves.

IDB To Extend $40 Million Loan for Projects

JN0909140489 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 7 Sep 89 p 8

[By Ahmad Hashim from Istanbul]

[Excerpt] Eng Mahir Abazah, electricity minister and head of the Egyptian delegation to the meetings of the energy ministers of Arab and Islamic states which were concluded yesterday, has affirmed that the Islamic Development Bank [IDB] has agreed in principle to grant Egypt a $40 million loan, $25 million of which will be used to complete the project of expanding a power station west of Cairo through the introduction of two power units whose generating capacity will be 600 megawatts. The remaining $15 million will be used to finance the first project of its kind in Egypt to manufacture insulators required for power networks. A portion of this $15 million amount will also be used to finance the implementation of a number of other powerline and network projects. An IDB delegation of experts will arrive in Cairo during the first week in October to complete talks and pave the way for a final endorsement of the loan agreement. [passage omitted]

Papers Highlight Mufti Ruling on Savings

NC0809080289 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0335 GMT 8 Sep 89

[From the press review]

[Text] The three Cairo dailies highlight the Mufti ruling that earnings from the saving funds and investment certificates are permissible and not prohibited by Sharia laws. AL-AKHBAR notes the statement issued by the Mufti's office yesterday calling on people to buy the investment certificates with the intention of helping the state in development projects that will be beneficial to all of society. In return, the buyers will accept what the state offers them in earnings as an encouragement to help carry out projects that will be fruitful for all.

An AL-AKHBAR editorial says the Mufti was right to end the long-standing controversy over this issue, which caused people who strictly observe their religion to be reluctant to buy investment certificates, for instance, or to deposit money in saving accounts. This reluctance affected the economy adversely, which relies on the people's savings to carry out the development plan.

The paper concludes by saying: Now that the Mufti has resolved the controversy and presented a clear-cut and frank Islamic ruling on dealing with banks, saving funds, and investment certificates, citizens have no more excuses not to invest their money in projects that will be beneficial to them and to society.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi on Progress Since Revolution

NC0809071589 Nicosia AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI in Arabic 4-10 Sep 89 pp 15-25

[Interview with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI reporters Muhammad 'Ali al-Shuwayhidi, Mu'taz Maydani, Paul Shawul, Dr Fadil al-'Azzawi, Hani 'Abdallah, Hasan Ahmad, Ahmad Baqqadi, and Jamal Fahmi, in Tripoli during the "last week" of August]

[Text] AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Brother Colonel, 20 years after the revolution, do you still remember what happened during the week before the outbreak of the revolution? Do you remember what happened at almost this same time of the year in 1969?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I remember that it was a very busy week. Before that we had been a strictly underground movement. In March 1969 the authorities sensed that a certain action was under way, so they issued an arrest warrant for me, but waived it temporarily. We learned that someone had leaked news of our existence to the security authorities but we did not know who. So we went underground for 6 months, from March to September, and then came out suddenly the last week of August, at this same time of the year.

I remember I went from Tripoli to Banghazi on Thursday, before the outbreak of the revolution (on the night of Sunday-Monday). I met the units and officers stationed here, who were surprised to learn that the zero hour has been set for the night of Sunday-Monday. They were expecting 1 or 2 years of preparation for the revolution. Some were stunned and said it was impossible to launch action on the set date. Even Major 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud thought that we needed at least 11 months of preparations. I said that he was free to obey or reject the order of the revolution, but was angry because Jallud said that any action would be an adventure that would probably fail. Nevertheless, I got in touch with the officers in Tarhunah, al-Zawiyah, and Tripoli on Thursday and Friday and gave them the instructions. Then I returned to Banghazi on Friday and met also with the officers in Darnah and al-Bayda' and informed them of the zero hour.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: In the Volkswagon you used to have?

Al-Qadhdhafi: (laughing) Yes, in the Volkswagon. I visited most units and informed them of zero hour for the revolution.

Of course, zero hour was not open to debate, because 20 lieutenants of the movement were to be sent to Britain on Monday morning. Before that, 12 lieutenants had been sent to Britain.

This was a studied move to deprive the army of the lieutenants, after they felt that the movement's supporters were in the middle ranks. This is why they started sending officers to training courses in America and Britain.

I told the movement's officers that we had to launch the revolution before the 20 officers were sent to Britain on Monday. Meanwhile, we asked the latter to prepare for travel as normal.

On Sunday I went with Muhammad al-Muqaryif to al-Abyar and al-Marj. There I met with the officers and told them that the zero hour was that same night, and gave them the orders in my own handwriting. They seemed confident. I asked them to destroy the written orders after reading them, which they did. I had an extra copy of these orders which I buried in the ground near my room in Qaryunis, so that if the revolution failed, no one would know its plans, and if it succeeded, we would have an historical document.

Unfortunately, following the revolution we were too busy and forgot about that document. By the time we remembered it and started looking, we could not find it. It was a very imortant historical document. The instructions were on official army papers. It also had an introduction discussing the goals of the revolution. This is in addition to the instructions and the tasks, the whole plan. It is a shame we lost it.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: But during this period the Americans had in Tripoli the second largest U.S. base in the world, and therefore, the outbreak of a revolution in the presence of such a base would be like carrying out a fedayeen operation. How much were you prepared to confront the base had it moved against the revolution?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The revolution was necessary and the presence of foreign troops on Libyan territory was one of the justifications for the revolution. Therefore, had we been afraid of the base we would never have carried out the revolution. I relied on the people to move and I prepared myself to encourage the people to fight against the bases and wage street battles if the revolution had failed. I was, therefore, anxious to occupy the radio station, because I believed that if we managed to seize the radio station we would be able to address the people and declare the battle. We could not rely only on the units which engineered the revolution because there was no way to compare these units with the base's forces.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: What about the British Army camps?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The British Army was harrassed after 1967. We even had plans to wage fedayeen operations against this army but the British withdrew from Banghazi to Tubruq.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: On 16 September 1969, you delivered the first speech to the masses in front of 'Umar al-Mukhtar's tomb. Do you remember this?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Of course I remember this; it was the beginning.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Were there any specific significant events that had taken place on the eve of the revolution?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Nothing worth mentioning. Everything proceeded according to plan. However, there was that lieutenant who had been telling the authorities about our movement since March. One night I was with a group of soldiers in an ammunition dump in the Qaryunis camp loading the magazines of machineguns when the lieutenant came in to watch what we were doing. I heard the sound of his car and I went out but he did not notice anything. I went out again but he was not there. Later, Mustafa al-Kharrubi told the lieutenant that we would carry out our move during the night. Naturally, we did not know that he had been betraying us. He contacted al-Shalhi and the reactionary leaders to inform them. Only 10 minutes before zero hour, the lieutenant telephoned me to ask about the movement. I was taken aback by his question and I suspected that he intended to let others hear about the movement. My suspicion was justified. He advised us that the move should be postponed on the pretext that certain security reinforcements had been adopted by the authority on the streets to subdue the move. I denied that there was any move. I told him that what he had been told was something related to a car accident. I meant to confuse matters. I then dispatched Mustafa al-Kharrubi to Banghazi to investigate. He found out that the streets were empty and no security measures were seen.

The objective of the informant lieutenant was to confuse us and obstruct our move so that the reactionary leaders had ample time to quell the move. The lieutanent stood trial after the revolution. He was imprisoned and later freed.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: How did the masses express their support for the revolution?

Al-Qadhdhdafi: At the first moment, there were more cables of support than expected. We declared a curfew, but the streets were full of demonstrations. I also recall an incident in Banghazi 2 or 3 days after the revolution when a noncommissioned officer lost his mind and started throwing grenades into the street from a box he was carrying, but he was killed quickly. At the radio station they thought there was a counterrevolution, so one of the announcers declared that Banghazi radio was in danger and called on the units to protect it. On hearing that, the people thought there was something against the revolution, so despite the curfew, they took to the streets to defend the radio. Those were the people that I depended upon to come out and fight should the military operation fail.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: In the streets the people were preparing meals for the soldiers.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes, we were eating food the people in the street prepared.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: How was your first encounter with the masses?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I did not feel I was a stranger to them. I felt as if I had spoken to them before. If you go over the speech you will find it sounds like one in a series of speeches.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Was the Arab masses' support for the revolution up to your expectations?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The support of the Arab masses was as great as we had expected, and these masses are still backing us.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Were you expecting prompt support to the revolutionary situation from Egypt in particular?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Of course, we were relying much on 'Abd-al-Nasir, although there had not been any contact with him and although he was late in recognizing the revolution 2 days after it had broken out. (laughing)

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Which was the quickest Arab regime to recognize the revolution?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The first Arab state to recognize us was Iraq under the rule of President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Let us turn to some intellectural questions and begin with this one: If you were to rewrite your Green Book in light of past experience, would you leave it as it is or make some modifications?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I do not think considerable amendments would need to be introduced to the Greek Book if I were to rewrite it now, only some slight modifications.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Twenty years after the revolution, and in light of the contact with the political, social, economic, and ideological reality, could we say that the theory became united with this reality or collided with it, stumbled, or ran into certain obstacles?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We cannot be hasty in judging this theory, for it is for changing the world into one of masses, to one of partners rather than hired hands. The world will inevitably turn into one of masses, these partisan and parliamentary systems will become systems run by the masses, who will set up congresses and committees everywhere. Also, the hired hands will win this battle and turn into partners. The system of employment is dying out and is facing a world revolution. Representation on behalf of the masses is dying out. The parliamentary system is dying out, so is the partisan experiment. The goal of the theory is to change the world and create a world of honest people and of the masses. It would be difficult to assess the theory in such a short period of time, it would take dozens and even hundreds of years to judge it. It is not a revolution within a state, but it involves the entire world.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Nowadays, there is a kind of retreat in world ideology. In the case of the Soviet Union, China, and the French Socialist Party, it is as if they are deviating from the ideological lines pursued since the French Revolution. How does the revolution deal with such a situation?

Al-Qadhdhafi: It is not a deviation from the theories which seek solutions for the problems of mankind and societies. It is the failure of these theories, rather than the abandonment of the ideologies themselves. There should be theories and applications. Without these two, life cannot go on. What is really happening is that the bankruptcy of previous ideologies, which failed to provide a solution, is being acknowledged. This is an encouragement to reiterate that the Third International Theory is the alternative. We expected this before the failure of those theories. The solution comes through a new thesis emerging from the critical controversial relationship between already existing creeds. The basic solution is the Third International Theory contained in the Green Book.

Political authority, as perceived by those ideologies, has failed. Capitalism and liberalism have become obsolete. Even Western nations are no longer interested in elections. The people of the West are not interested in false democracy and elections because they do not trust their governments. Political parties have turned into mere leaderships. There are no real members, but only leaders who are eager to take power. Parties in the West are mere classical institutions embracing big capitalists, aristocrats, and the bourgeoisie. They say this or that party is for the conservatives or the workers, but it is not for the workers.

As far as Marxism is concerned, the crisis is as clear as the midday sun. This can be seen in the current situation in Poland. The emergence of perestroyka is a clear admission and condemnation of the bankruptcy of all previous theories. The transitional phase seemed like a fantasy. In other words, socialism was a preparatory phase for communism. All this has been canceled. It turned out that those countries were not marching toward communism. The system of one-party rule prevailed and the party justified its rule and dictatorship by announcing that it was the vanguard of the proletariat. In Poland, Solidarity exposed the truth. It turned out that the ruling party had not been the vanguard of the proletariat, and Solidarity became the representative of the proletariat.

This proved that no Marxism-based governments represent the proletariat, and that political parties are not proletarian. It was believed that the revolution had gained control over society and the means of production and that, therefore, we had to accept the dictatorship of the one party and the proletariat so that we could bring about Communism. This turned out to be a fantasy

which did not lead to Communism. There was no production increase or surplus. All there was were problems in backwarded societies in a backward world. Hence came endeavors and experiments governed by a series of tools of the rulers. One-party rule is eternal. Thus, it turned out that there had been no transitional phase.

In reality, Marxism did not end just recently. It ended with Lenin's death, when Stalin came to build a very strong state. They asked him then how he did that, when Marxism says that the state's existence is only temporary. He said: "I do not care whether the state withers away. My major concern is to see this state the strongest on earth."

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: If Marxism ended at the beginning of Stalin's era, how did Arab Marxism flourish?

Al-Qadhdhafi: What is going on in the Soviet Union is one thing, and what is going on elsewhere is another. Arabs who read about Marxism in books and wanted to apply it believed that Marxism-based societies were identical to what they read about in books. They did not know the truth of the matter. With great courage, Gorbachev now says that what is going on in the Soviet Union is different from what you read about in books. He says there is a crisis and a dictatorship.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: But is the problem in the theory or in the application?

Al-Qadhdhafi: From the purely theoretical perspective, one cannot ask whether Marxism is good or not. A system can be established, even if it is a bad one, according to this theory. That is, it is possible to stage a revolution, eliminate the bourgeoisie, replace it with the proletariat, go through the stages of Socialism and the state ownership of the means of production, and provide and accumulate production until communism is declared. But they could not put this into practice.

It is not impossible to set up a system according to the Marxist theory. But communism is a fairy tale. Even when Arab communist parties read the books, their concern is to attain power, just like the Muslim Brotherhood members who want to reach power, but not for the sake of God and paradise. The Arab communist parties too want to attain power, not for the sake of the proletariat but for the sake of power itself.

There is an active group which has either a religious or a progressive program, but their aim is power. The communist concept itself is in fact a childish one that cannot be translated into reality. In the debates that Marx had with those to whom he lectured, he was faced by embarrassing questions when he drew a picture of Communist society. People told him that it would be impossible to achieve this. Once someone told him: All right, let us suppose that the people had become masters, that each one had started to work according to his ability, and menial jobs had disappeared. But who would polish shoes then? Marx was furious and replied: You will polish them.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: What you said takes us back to the question about the 1 September revolution in light of the application of its theory in the Libyan arena. If we take a critical look at this theory, to what extent can we say that it accords with the reality? What can we say about what the reality has revealed, namely the difference between the theory and the public reality in Libya?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The basic thing is that the world will advance intellectually with the passage of time and this is in the interest of the Third International Theory. Libya is not a suitable place for applying the theory. Western Europe is the best place to apply the Jamahiriyah system because you have the intellectual and the educated person there. The more backward societies are, the more difficult it is to apply the theory.

Implementing the theory in Switzerland or Sweden would be better. Switzerland is nearer to the Jamahiriyah system. It has non-permanent people's congresses, general popular training, and enrollment in the army. All this is done in an organized way. Every citizen knows on which day he has training and thus joins his unit. But with us, the citizen tries to dodge. Even if he goes for training for a single day, he absents himself from his work for 5 days on the pretext of training.

I have even said that communism is a childish concept because it supposes the existence of an angelic person. If we could find angels, then perhaps we could apply communism: you will work according to your ability, take what you need. That is, you will do the work of 10 people but you need what one person needs while I do the work of one person and need what nine persons need. This is what communism says: each according to his effort, and for each according to his needs. Communism would thus be established if people were angels. But men are not angels. Communism has gone to the extreme in its idealism. The Jamahiriyah system is not so idealistic, but it is capable of being applied according to the theory. But the citizens must be educated.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: This means that the matter has more to do with awareness than with economic or production conditions?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The Third International Theory does not specify economic conditions as Marxism does. According to Marxism, there is supposed to be industrialization and a proletariat for a socialist revolution to take place. That condition was not available in East Europe, so socialsm failed. It is a society of shepherds and farmers that does not suit Marxism, which was introduced arbitrarily to the Soviet Union. Lenin was exiled in Germany, and he promised the Germans that once he reached power he would put an end to World War I. The Germans helped him to reach power, and Marxism entered the Soviet Union in an arbitrary manner. What is happening now

confirms this. What is important in the theory of the masses, regardless of their conditions, is the awareness and not the economic structure.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: This leads us to a question on the accomplishments of the revolution after 20 years. On the material side, these accomplishments exist, but what has been accomplished in terms of the molding of the people and are you satisfied with what has taken place in this domain?

Al-Qadhdhafi: No, not at all. I think there is hardly anything to mention in this respect. I consider these 20 years as if they were 20 minutes, for that purpose.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: You addressed the following question to the people's congresses: What do the Libyans want from the revolution after 20 years? Does this mean that there has been an estrangement between the revolution and the masses?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The question in fact is meant to dumbfound [ifham] the masses!

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Regarding material achievements, it is said that there is oversaturation. Once in Lome, Togo, we saw people celebrating the paving of an 18-km road, and they were very pleased. In the Jamahiriyah, people do not care much for the highways that are thousands of kilometers long, the bridges, and so on. This means that the citizen is oversaturated with achievements, if we may put it that way.

Al-Qadhdhafi: We have paved 24,000 km of roads and Libya now ranks 10th in the world in terms of the length of paved roads in proportion to the population.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: If you are not satisfied with the achievement in the sphere of molding the people, is there any thought of seriously trying to mold the Libyan citizen?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The theory does not have to be applied in Libya; perhaps it would be best to apply it somewhere else.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: But there are an enormous number of people in Libya who love Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Al-Qadhdhafi: There is a difference between he who loves Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and he who understands how to rule himself by himself through the people's conference and committees, neighborhood organizations of the masses, systems of partnerships [tasharukat], popular representation, organized collective work, and armed people. It is possible that people could love me to the extent that they want me to rule them without the people's conferences or committees, but I do not consider this a success.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: But there are hundreds of thousands of people who are committed to the revolution and to Al-Qadhdhafi's line of thinking. You may not have had the opportunity to meet them in person.

Al-Qadhdhafi: If they exist, we will have to be accurate in our work: in establishing the authority of the masses [Iqamat al-Jamharah] and the popular neighborhoods; in establishing the system of partners rather than hired hands in factories; in making sure that the popular congresses are exercising authority in practice; in building up popular committees in a reasonable manner; in seeing that the organized training process is underway; and in replacing the army by the armed people. When we see that this has been done we can say that the people have understood and applied the theory. It does not matter whether the people like me or not. What matters is for the people to understand and apply the theory.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: It seems that it will take a little longer.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes, it will take a little longer. Such a revolution should not have occurred in Libya. It should have occurred in a more aware country, so that it could be taken as an example. If it had taken place in Sweden or Switzerland, for example, it would have been better. We would have seen the Jamahiriyah system applied in an ideal and exact way. Popular authority would have been established, without parties, parliaments, classes, army, police, or president. Nevertheless, there would have been no negligence. No one would have to ask who will protect the accumulated production, or who will polish shoes. Workers under such a system would be partners rather than employees. Everyone would work and eat out of the product of his own hands. Society, the congresses, and the committees would protect those who cannot produce.

Nothing hinders the application of the Jamahiriyah system in enlightened societies. The people there can study the system and apply it at once.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: The failure of ideology has led to the prevailing state of affairs in the world. Can we say that the current turning back to tribal and sectarian ideas is a result of the failure of pan-Arabism, or the Arab national thinking?

Al-Qadhdhafi: There is no nationalist Arab theory. Pan-Arabism is not a theory, but an existing reality. The approach adopted by a nation brought together by nationalism may fail in its military, political, administrative, or economic aspect. This may lead to the emergence of such parasites. This will be at the expense of the nation's existence.

Nationalism is the reality of the nation itself. If a community is born, this means that its people are brought together by nationalism. However, the failure of this community does not mean that nationalism has failed. If a family fails economically, this does not mean that the father is no longer a father, or that the mother is

no longer a mother. The ties remain, even if the people fail to manage their own affairs.

The Arab nation has failed at the military, economic, political, cultural, and organizational levels. Hence, all those parasites were born. We should not be superficial in interpreting things by saying that Pan-Arabism has failed. Pan-Arabism is the link that brings people together. We may say that the Arab political or military system has failed, so that we can change it. But pan-Arabism is an existing fact.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: There is a difference between theory and application, just as there is a difference between real life and dreams. Could the Jamahiriyah theory encounter problems such as those that the other ideologies are encountering?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Problems arise in rigid theories and applications, like those of communism. There are problems facing the application of communism. The Jamahiriyah theory was produced by reality, and there is no contradiction between theory and application. This theory is like pouring water on the ground and letting it take its natural course. Problems arise when you use arbitrary means to force the water into taking a course contrary to its natural one. The other theories are trying to force the water to take a course contrary to its natural one. They want to create a society according to the theory's standards. They resort to arbitrary methods to do that.

The Jamahiriyah theory is a natural extract of real things which take form spontaneously without arbitrariness. If we topple a government, dissolve all its institutions, and leave the people on their own, what would happen? They would form popular congresses and committees. When the Bastille fell in France in 1789, popular congresses were spontaneously established. In Libya, when the monarchy fell the people formed popular congresses and gave them that name. Forming parliaments and parties implies arbitrary measures against the people. The solution is to let the people form committees and congresses and rule themselves.

The sole concern of a man who produces in return for a wage is to think how he can obtain this wage, rather than how to produce. Ordering him to produce is an arbitrary method, because the wage, and not production, is his main motive. He will try to find ways, slow down, or stage strikes to raise his wage. However, if we tell him that he is producing for himself, we will have freed the motive and made production a natural thing. We would say a man who produces 10 apples can eat them, and that a man who produces 20 apples can eat them. This is the natural law. Thus, it is clear that there is no contradiction between theory and application.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: We are living in a world which requires the economic organization of society, where there should be criteria for determining who does one job and who does another. Hence, there is a certain need for institutions of some kind, which we may not call a state. But there must be institutions.

The brother colonel's words encourage us to be frank about an impression we received when we saw the slogans of the revolution written on shopfronts. We had the impression that beneath this there is a kind of flattery directed toward a certain organ or authority, though there is no government. Such signs contradict their own content.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes, it is the mentality we have talked about. A person with this kind of mentality knows that there is no government, and that flattery will get him nowhere. Yet he does this.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Does such a citizen not need a certain body to organize his affairs, without having to flatter it?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The appropriate bodies in the Jamahiriyah system are the masses' institutions. The popular congresses have the authority to make decisions. The congresses form popular committees. The popular committee decides to establish a company for distributing agricultural products, in which all the workers are partners organized in a committee to manage the company. These are the institutions of the democratic Jamahiriyah, and they are responsible.

Suppose there is a factory run by a workers committee. This committee is responsible to the workers congress, and all are partners in production. If the committee fails to carry out its responsibility, then the congress can hold a meeting to bring it down.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: In the Jamahiriyah, you distinguish between the revolution and the state. However, it has been observed that there is an interaction between the revolution and the state which sometimes confuses the citizen. He accepts the revolution with the state's faults, and sometimes the revolution asks the state to implement its dreams but to no avail.

Al-Qadhdhafi: The idea is that at present there should be a revolutionary movement that does not exercise authority. Authority should be exercised by others in traditional regimes. We say that the revolutionary committees which represent the vanguards are not ruling. They should leave the state to be ruled through the people's congresses and the people's committees. The task of the revolutionary committees is to guide this Jamahiri regime so that the people themselves can exercise authority. The task of the committees is to motivate the congresses to exercise authority as well as to implement the resolutions adopted by the congresses. The so-called separation of the revolution from the state is the same as the separation of the activities of the revolutionary committees from the authority. If these committees exercise authority they will do so on behalf of the people but with dictatorship.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Any theory can only be strengthened through its battles with other ideas and ideologies and through criticism and counter-criticism. Did this happen in the case of the Jamahiriyah theory?

Al-Qadhdhafi: It is not necessary. In Sudan, they once found Communists distributing land to some feudal landlords. Asked about the reason, the Communists said that their objective was to create feudalism so that there would be peasants to carry out the peasants' revolution. But if there are well-to-do peasants why should you take their land and give it to the feudal landlords? If the situation is good here and there is no opposition, why should we create opposition? Why should we create a battle with someone and then say he is an opponent and later declare say that he has been eliminated and the revolution has been consolidated?

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Should there be free discussion then?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Free discussion does take place in the people's congresses. Any idea, however strange, can be presented to the people's congress and, if the congress adopts it, it will be listed on the agendas of all the people's congresses' work and a resolution will be adopted on it.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: The press plays a major role in the ideological struggle. Are you satisfied with the press and other media in the Jamahiriyah, and do they play their role?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I am not satisfied with the way the media are being administered. We live in a society in which we do not need to create newspapers to express the views of the people. The people are now the authority and there is no need for papers to offer criticism. If anyone wants to criticize he should do this in the people's congress where a decision can be made concerning his criticism. As long as he is in authority, the Libyan citizen no longer needs criticism through the press. Have you ever heard of a minister in any country who released a leaflet criticizing his own behavior? At the same time, it is not prohibited in Libya to publish a newspaper or issue a leaflet and say anything you like.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: In Arab political affairs, Arab unity has emerged as one demand which the 1 September revolution has been urging right from the start. There have been unionist experiences with countries from the Arab east and west. The Arabs have recently established three groupings which are coordinating among their countries. The Jamahiriyah has welcomed these groupings as the nucleus for a comprehensive Arab unity, but it has warned them against turning into regional blocs or axes. In the view of the brother colonel, what direction are these groupings heading in?

Al-Qadhdhafi: It was international conditions that made the Arabs feel that Arab unity is inevitable. They are now incapable of establishing a comprehensive Arab unity and hence these groupings appeared. For example, it was Europe which has inspired the countries of the Arab Maghreb to form a bloc, and it was Europe which pressed for it. Why has unity been established only now when the persons concerned have been there for decades?

Western Europe told them that the EEC would become a political state after 1992 and that it would not be able to deal with them as statelets. Either you form a bloc or we will not deal with you. Western Europe cannot now communicate with each country separately. Mauritania cannot communicate with France separately. Tunisia cannot sell cooking oil to France unless Spain or Italy, which also produce cooking oil, agrees. There is no longer a single European country capable of selling you what you want, like wheat for example, unless the other European countries agree to it.

It was the Europeans who exerted pressure for unity to be established. You know that French colonialism in Africa set up blocs. We are surprised that the Africans set up a single airline company and an economic council. They did not do so out of conscious unionism. It was colonialism that brought together a group of countries so as to deal with them as a single market. Colonialism has an interest in some blocs.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Does this apply to the Arab blocs too?

Al-Qadhdhafi: It was the EEC that has pressed for the Arab Maghreb bloc to be set up. The same applies to the Gulf Cooperation Council, the countries of which constitute a single oil region. For America, it would be better to have a single council.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: What about the Arab Cooperation Council?

Al-Qadhdhafi: There are grievances and political accounts to be settled through this council. One country wants to isolate the other, another wants to settle accounts with someone else, and another wants to exasperate someone else. Sanaa wants to exasperate Saudi Arabia. King Husayn wants to exasperate the Saudis. Iraq wants to isolate Syria, while Egypt wants to break out of its isolation. All this led to the creation of the Arab Cooperation Council.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: There is criticism of the failed unionist experiences, in that they should have been built from the base and not from the top. Do you agree with this criticism?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I do not believe that the past experiences were a failure. They left unionist residues. Still, unity is not something alien. When we establish unity with Tunisia, no one says that it is an impromptu act. It is a 20-year-old unity.

We have been trying to set up unity with Syria since the dawn of the revolution in Libya. We have done a lot of work in that direction. We also had 20 years of unity experiences with Egypt: the United Arab Republic, the Tripoli charter. We had a single parliament and a single presidential body, a unionist body, and joint companies. We opened the borders several times. Is it reasonable for anyone to come and say that unity is an impromptu matter?

The unionist experiences have not been in vain and we have benefited from them. Unionist thinking is not alien. Unity has been strongly advocated ever since the time of 'Abd-al-Nasir's revolution.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Syria is one of the Arab countries with whom the Jamahiriyah established unionist relations of coordination. To what extent does this coordination still exist? Do the Jamahiriyah and Syria agree on all the current Arab issues?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We agree on the strategic issues. But in daily and temporary applications, we might differ on some things and agree on others. But the geographical factor has, unfortunately, had the effect of impeding unity. Had Syria and Libya had common borders, we would have established unity 20 years ago. It would have been possible to establish unity between the two countries at the advent of the 1 September revolution. I am sure that had Syria and Libya been neighbors an important state would have come into being. Geography constituted an impediment.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: From its first day, the 1 September revolution has played a role in supporting patriotic and national movements in the Arab homeland. There are at the same time official relations between the Jamahiriyah and the Arab governments. Does support for these movements not affect the Jamahiriyah's official relations? How can the two positions be reconciled?

Al-Qadhdhafi: This is really a dilemma. (laughter)

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: You supported the Lebanese national movement within the framework of your backing for the patriotic and national forces and movements. There are now developments and changes in the Lebanese arena. Is the Jamahiriyah still looking at Lebanon on the basis of this stand or has there been a change?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Our stand where the Lebanese national movement is concerned is firm. There is no doubt about this and we will not abandon it. But our support for the national movement does not mean that we are hostile to the other parties. It is possible to support the Lebanese national movement and be friends with another party which is not a member of the movement.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: How do you see the situation in Lebanon?

Al-Qadhdhafi: It seems that it would be better if things remained as they are in Lebanon. What have we gained from the strong Arab armies and government which are protecting "the Israelis?" The situation as it is allows anyone who wants to become a martyr, commit suicide, or make himself a shaykh, sultan, or authoritative person to do so.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Is there is particular role for the Jamahiriyah now in Lebanon?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The Jamahiriyah's role is a pan-Arab one. But the situation has become so complicated that we have refrained from getting involved in the Lebanese quagmire. There is nowadays a settling of accounts between other parties on Lebanon's soil. Things have reached this degree. The Iraqis want to settle their accounts with the Syrians. The Iranians want to settle their accounts with the Iraqis. We are not a party in the game of settling accounts.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: You mean that you do not consider the war to be an inter-Lebanese one?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Of course, it was originally an inter-Lebanese war. Otherwise why all these parties? In the inter-Lebanese war they have found a way of settling their accounts with each other. This person supports this party and that one supports the other party. Sometimes the reason for this is not affection for this or that party but a desire to settle accounts with a person who supports the other party.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Do you believe that the warring parties in Lebanon have a role now? Have the militias, all the militias, a role or have their roles been pretexts for other foreign powers ever since 1975?

Al-Qadhdhafi: There were in fact justifications for these militias, but the militias were very weak and sought foreign parties to depend on. For example, the isolationist Phalangist establishment in Lebanon was incapable of deciding the conflict in Lebanon in its favor, and so allied itself with Israel and with the West. The nationalist forces could not decide the conflict in their favor and allied themselves with Syria and Libya. The situation is better now because the alliances are inter-Arab. 'Awn and his group are allied to Iraq and Saudi Arabia. This is better than being allied to Israel.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: But when Syrian intervention took place in 1976, didn't Syria have an alliance with the eastern areas?

Al-Qadhdhafi: That was good. When the Christians allied themselves with Syria in 1976 it was better than being allied with the "Israelis." Now when Michel 'Awn allies himself with Iraq it is better than being allied to "Israel."

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Do you believe that since 1975 "Israel's" alliance has always been with the so-called Christian parties?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Not necessarily. But that was the situation they found themselves in. The Phalangist establishment, even if it includes Muslims, is an isolationist one. This is something that dates back to the crusades. Speaking as a revolutionary and not as a politician, I wish that the entire Arab world would witness what is taking place in Lebanon and show their disdain for the Arab governments, their amirs, sultans, leaders, and armies. All this "confusion" must be burned out by a civil war and borders should have no sanctity. Even if

the war lasts 1,000 years and achieves strong unity, it is still better than respecting borders, brotherhood, good neighborliness, and all this nonsense.

Still speaking as a revolutionary, I say that the situation in the entire Arab homeland should be the same as the one in Lebanon. The problem in Lebanon is basically that of Christian Arab and Muslim Arab. The mistake is the existence of Christian Arabs. The error right from the beginning, regardless of whoever committed it, be it the Prophet Muhammad himself, was allowing Christians to remain. The basis of the call to Islam is that Arabs must be Muslims. Jihad, the confrontation of infidels and hypocrites, and beheading were all meant for non-Muslim Arabs. The Arabs must fight among themselves until they become Muslims. Religion has called since the time of the Prophet for turning the Arabs into Muslims so that no Jewish or Christian Arabs would remain. The result is what is we see today. As to Christians who are not Arabs and non-Arab infidels, there is no such thing as jihad against them. The Koran says: And argue with them in ways that are best. Islam calls for arguing with non-Arabs, such as Persians, Turks, Greeks, and others, in ways that are best. As to the Arab, he should not remain in his old faith. He should become a Muslim through the sword and through fighting, because if you had killed 10 at that time it would have been better than having constant fighting till now between Muslim and Christian. The result of this is clear in Lebanon. It might happen in Egypt, in Syria, or in Iraq because there are non-Muslim Arabs in those countries.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: The Lebanese war did not start between Muslims and Christians but between isolationist forces representing an exploiting class and other forces. The Lebanese national forces include Christians and Muslims. The sectarian problem has been exported to us.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes, but whoever exported this problem found the appropriate setting for his act. He found out that there are Muslim Arabs and Christian Arabs. If he had not found suitable ground, he would not have been able to export the problem. The plot succeeded because the ground is fertile.

This does not mean that the exploiters, regardless of their religion, are an exploiting class and that the toilers and nationalists, regardless of their religion, are another class. Are all the Christians isolationists? Impossible. We say there is a Lebanese national movement and not a Lebanese Islamic movement. It is a Lebanese national movement in which there are Christians and Muslims. Muslims can also be isolationists. Sa'ib Salam and other traditional leaders are neither revolutionaries nor nationalists.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: But even in the Lebanese arena there is a Sunni-Shiite dispute within the same Islamic religion.

Al-Qaddhafi: The Shiite-Sunni problem should not exist. I know what the present dispute is about, and it is not about religion. Jihad means that the Arabs should have one religion, namely Islam. From the first day of Islam the sword should not have stopped until all the Arabs became Muslims. Shia is not a religion but a political stand that supports 'Ali against Mu'awiyah. What has this to do with religion? Shia is a political party that supports 'Ali.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: The Palestinian uprising [intifadah] in the occupied territories is a result of pent-up feelings on two levels: The first is the occupation and its practices and the second is frustration with official Arab attitudes toward the Arab-Israeli conflict. At present we see two courses as regards the Arab and Palestinian approach to the intifadah. The two courses agree on supporting the intifadah but disagree on the level it should reach and the objective it should achieve. What is your opinion?

Al-Qadhdhafi: First of all, the intifadah is not a question of individuals. Second, it is also ambiguous. Even 'Arafat and the various Palestinians do not know the truth about the intifadah. They have ridden the wave. When Yasir 'Arafat and other Palestinians speak about the intifadah, they are just riding the wave. The problem is not the intifadah. The disagreement is not over the intifadah but over the Palestinian issue. Some Arab regimes feel that they are closer to "Israel" than they are to other Arab regimes. These Arab regimes feel they and "Israel" have many things in common. The issue is not about one regime being Islamic and the other not. It is about an Arab capitalist and exploiting regime feeling that "Israeli" society is closer to it than an Arab revolutionary regime. One might ask why there is no Western European state which is an agent of the Soviet Union? Because there is no West European state which is Communist or which has something in common with communism. They are all capitalist states that have a common stand toward the socialist states. France may disagree with Britain but they agree against the common enemy because they are of the same nature. The Arabs say how can an Arab country can be an agent of the other side? Because the Arab economic system is contradictory. There is a corrupt capitalist Arab system which is diametrically opposed to a revolutionary socialist Arab system. At the same time this capitalist Arab system is an ally of a non-Arab capitalist system. Some Arabs say that it is better for Palestine to remain in the hands of the "Israelis" than to become a socialist revolutionary Arab state. They believe that the capitalist "Israeli" society is similar to theirs. They thus recognize it, while they consider the revolutionary Arab system to be in conflict with theirs.

The stand of these toward the intifadah is fundamentally based on their stand toward the Palestinian issue.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: The unified national leadership of the intifadah has set itself three goals: to repel the occupation; achieve the right to self-determination; and establish an independent Palestinian state. These goals

were adopted by the PLO and the Casablanca summit. What is your position on this?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The intifadah did not outline its goals the way you said, and the Arabs did not adopt the position of the intifadah, but that of the PLO. The PLO position advocates a Palestinian state in exchange for the recognition of "Israel". The "Israelis", as an existing reality, are benefiting from the recognition and from the secure borders, while the Palestinian state is a fantasy [khayal] that has no existence or action, so who will benefit from the recognition and the resolutions? He who already exists. He said: you recognized me, thank you. As for the state, go look for it. This is what happened. What happened is that there is no Palestinian state, but an "Israeli" state, which was recognized by the Arabs in Casablanca, except for Libya.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Let us say it is a recognition conditional upon the establishment of the second state.

Al-Qadhdhafi: The Palestinian state? Where is it? Who has thus far benefited from the recognition? He who already exists. As for you, go look for the Palestinian state. When you find it in 100 years we will talk about it. What is ther purpose of giving recognition now? This is weakness. I told them: O brothers, do not meet and discuss the issue of Palestine because the Arabs are in a weak position. When you meet you will be compelled to make further concessions, so why meet and talk about this issue while you are in a position of weakness? Let it alone. Why hold an emergency summit on the Palestine issue? The current equations show that the Arabs are in a weak position, so why meet and discuss this matter? It's on America's orders that the Arabs, in their weak position, met so that they could make more concessions and recognize "Israel" within its secure borders. Once they had made the concessions, no one cared about them. Only Bush thanked them. But what did "Israel" do? Did it at least say it will stop the acts of torture against Arab prisoners? No. What is the meaning of a Palestinian state when all of Palestine is occupied? It's just a protective shield.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: When the PLO's Interim Program was adopted in 1984, it was passed on the grounds of establishing a Palestinian entity as opposed to the "Israeli" entity. Are you against the establishment of a Palestinian entity in principle, even if only a portion of the Palestinian land is seized and a national authority established on it?

Al-Qadhdhafi: These are misconceptions, because when your land is occupied, you set up your state and liberate the land inch by inch, and this is one thing. But to take part of the land and say that in return for this part you will relinquish the rest of the land to the enemy and recognize him—that is something else. When you seize a portion of your land and set up a state with the aim of liberating all of Palestine from the river to the sea, this is the kind of state that we could recognize. But to say that you were given this inch and that you have given up everything else—and this is what actually happened—we do not recognize such a state. He [not further identified] said: They will give me the West Bank and Gaza to set up a Palestinian state next to "Israel." This is danger.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: You have said that the Jamahiriyah is the only hawk among the Arab doves and that you will give these doves a chance to try their drive toward peace although the facts indicate that these doves are preparing to embark on treason. Therefore, what is your stand regarding them?

Al-Qadhdhafi: That is why we gave them a chance to show that they are traitors. We are sure that they will commit treason eventually. Those who claimed to be doves of peace have ended up being doves of capitulation. That was the chance we gave them. We told them that they are traitors. They said that they are seeking peace and asked us to test them. We told them that we reject everything they are doing and that we are convinced that they will eventually fall into the quagmire of capitulation.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: The success of the Palestinian people's struggle in the occupied territories depends on the mechanism of the popular committees' work. Is there a link between what is happening in the occupied territories at the level of the committees' work and the Third Internationl Theory?

Al-Qadhdhafi: That was what we said; the world will definitely change to the Jamahiri system. This system is not an engineering system to which the world will be compelled to change. When authority over the masses is removed, these masses will form committees. The people's committees are the instruments of the masses that have no government. Only this confirms the theory and the fact that the world will change to the Jamahiri system. It is not that there is a link between us. Like everyone else, we were surprised by the declaration of people's committees in Palestine. However, it became clear that the people's committees are the instruments of the masses that want to govern themselves by themselves. It remains for these unorganized masses to hold people's congresses so that the people's committees will be answerable to them. Even in Lebanon there are people's committees in many areas, including the camps.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: The Arab masses' backing for the intifadah is confined to moral support. How can the masses be activated to aid and support the intifadah, and how can the intifadah motivate these masses?

Al-Qadhdhafi: This is an issue that imposes itself. The intifadah which took place in Jordan was in reality a contagion that moved to the West Bank. Even if it is put down, it will recur. I expect the revolution of stones to spread and the children to hurl stones at the cars of the Arab rulers as the beginning of a people's intifadah.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Official Arab support for the intifadah is confined to financial aid. Do you believe that this aid is sufficient for the attainment of the goals

of the intifadah? What role can the masses play in supporting the intifadah and providing it with the means to continue?

Al-Qadhdhafi: If the Arabs honor their financial pledges, that will be good, but I fear that they may not do so. As for the intifadah, we have often called for it to turn to secret armed resistance and clandestine sabotage. This will be the next phase. The Zionist institutions must be clandestinely sabotaged and a secret armed resistance must emerge from the dark similar to the EOKA organization in Cyprus and the secret Irish army. This resistance would then move to the land occupied in 1948, so as to prove that Palestine is the land between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean sea. Until now, it is being emphasized that it is made up of only the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as the enemy wants.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Some people say that the Jamahiriyah has not honored its commitment to pay its share in support of the intifadah, in accordance with the Algiers summit resolutions.

Al-Qadhdhafi: (laughing) Perhaps those who say this are the ones who want us to deliver the money into their hands.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Does this mean you have special channels to the intifadah?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We have our own ways of funneling support to the territories.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Some people say that "Israel" could be finished off by peace and they base their judgment on the assumption that this entity was originally established to play a military role in the region. Do you hold this to be true?

Al-Qadhdhafi: So long as there is one Arab who says "Israel" will be finished off [tantahi] by peace, another who says it will be finished off by war, and a third who says it will be finished off by a boycott, and so long as they all agree on the need for the enemy to be finished off, then thank God. Husni Mubarak told me that the enemy will be finished off [Yantahi] by peace. I replied: It is good that you agree with us that "Israel" must be finished off. We disagree on the means to do so; I want it to take place in one way and you want it to take place in another. But thank God there is agreement on the need for this enemy to be finished off.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Now that you have mentioned President Mubarak there is a point we hope you will clarify. After the Casablanca summit, it was said that perhaps there had been a change in the Jamahiriyah's position on "Camp David" and the need to abolish it. Is that true?

Al-Qadhdhafi: No, no. Basically, we want to bring down the enemy. We have not abandoned our position. But there is agreement on the strategic goals, each one according to his ability. Egypt might believe in another way to do it but, as I mentioned before, as long as he said this is an enemy that must be finished off, then it's good. It means he agrees with me that this is an enemy.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Is there an agreement to abolish "Camp David"?

Al-Qadhdhafi: So long as he says he wants to finish it off by peace and so long as he considers that "Stable David" is the road to peace, this means he will hold to it because in his belief it will finish off "Israel". It's good that he said it is an enemy state. I expected him to say it is a friendly, fraternal, or neighboring state, like Al-Sadat used to say about "Israel" and the people of "Israel". But when someone comes and says this is an enemy that must be finished off, this is a good thing.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: How do relations with Egypt stand now? Are you thinking of restoring official relations in full soon?

Al-Qadhdhafi: No. I do not think there will be a restoration of offical relations. First, it is up to the Arab Libyan people and the people's congresses to decide, but I do not think there is any reason for an early restoration of official relations.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: You mentioned that Egypt is facing difficult economic conditions and that it needs economic assistance to rescue it. Does the Jamahiriyah have a specific plan in this respect, and if so, what is it?

AL-Qadhdhafi: We have proposals to merge the Nile with the great man-made river, to develop all the desert between Egypt and Libya, and to link the two countries by economic benefits. We do not want the two countries to be separated by desert and sand, but by agricultural land.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, leader of the recent coup in Sudan, which he calls the National Salvation Revolution, has visited the Jamahiriyah and held talks with you. He said that he told you about the aims of this revolution. What is your attitude toward the new situation in Sudan?

Al-Qadhdhafi: They are patriotic, good, and sincere people but they do not have a definite revolutionary program. I asked him: Why did you carry out the coup? What was the temptation? (laughter) If someone had a definite revolutionary program, that would be good. But for matters as they are, there is no need for a coup. In fact, all the Sudanese brothers are a carbon copy of each other. I do not know why they carry out coups against each other—the military against the civilians and the civilians against the military. (laughter) The situation is the same and nothing drastic has happened.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: But what is your stand toward the new situation in Sudan?

Al-Qadhdhafi: In fact, we support them and we have sent them aid in the form of oil supplies.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Lt Gen al-Bashir spoke about the problems that had occurred in Darfur, in western Sudan. He said that they were between tribes of Arab origin and tribes of black African origin. He stated that the Ummah Party sought the help of Libyan forces to confront the the Unionist Democratic Party, which sought the help of Chadian forces. How far is this talk about Libyan aid true?

Al-Qadhdhafi: He said the same thing to me. But no help from Libyan forces was sought.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Lam Akol [as published], one of the leaders of the John Garang movement, has said that the movement received arms from Libya to help it topple the Numayri regime. What is your stand toward the movement now?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We armed 10,000 fighters of the Garang movement to help them overthrow the Numayri regime. After Numayri was overthrown, we had a disagreement with Garang when we asked him to stop the fighting and start political action. He refused and continued to fight. We regretted this. Afterward, the Sudanese Government sought our help in the fight against him. We consider Garang to be revolutionary but there are question marks over his recent contacts. In any case, contacts are continuing with him, and we may play a mediating role between him and the government in our capacity as friends of both sides.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: When will you visit Cairo?

Al-Qadhdhafi: It is difficult to visit Cairo as long as the "Israeli" embassy exists there. Perhaps we can meet somewhere else. I will visit Cairo after it is liberated.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: When will President Mubarak visit the Jamahiriyah?

Al-Qadhdhafi: That depends on him.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Did you invite him to attend the revolution anniversary celebrations?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We formally invited all the Arabs and the whole world.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Finally, what is your opinion of journalists in light of your meetings with them over the past 20 years?

Al-Qadhdhafi: One cannot say that they are all the same. There are geniuses who possess profound understanding, and there are others who are superficial. Some discuss ideological issues, while others raise superficial political issues just to make a living. Some know what journalism is and understand the nation's crisis; they know what issues to raise with me—ideological or political issues. Others are superficial.

Arab journalism is making progress, and I have hope for it. The ruler of a state might recognize the "Israeli" enemy but then a journalist writes a book in which he says that the Zionist entity constitutes a danger to future generations and that Palestine consists of all the territory from the river to the sea; such a book is stronger than the ruler's decision.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: You put a specific question to the Libyan people during the people's congresses. You asked them to say what they want from the revolution after 20 years. We would like to reverse the question and ask leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: What do you want from the Libyan people after 20 years? What do you want from the Arabs? What do you want from the world?

The leader of the 1 September revolution smiled and said: The question which AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI is posing is specifically the response to the question which I put to the people's congresses. I wish you had posed your question at the basic people's congress.

AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI: Well, this question is being posed now.

He replied: No. I refrain from giving an answer to the press.

Morocco

Mozambican Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit

Brings Chissano Message

LD1109110289 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Rabat, 11 Sep (MAP)—Mr Pascoal Manuel Mocumbi, foreign minister of Mozambique, arrived in Morocco yesterday evening on an official visit, which will continue for several days, at the invitation of his Moroccan counterpart, Abdellatif Filali.

On his arrival at Rabat-Sale airport, where he was received by Ahmed Cherkaoui, Moroccan secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, the head of Mozambique diplomacy stated that he is carrying a message from President Joaquim Chissano for the Moroccan monarch, King Hassan II.

Mr Pascoal pointed out that his visit to Morocco comes within the framework of consolidating the existing ties of friendship and fraternity between the two brotherly African countries, Morocco and Mozambique.

Meets With Filali

LD1109132989 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1252 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Rabat, Sept. 11. (MAP)—Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatifi Filali this morning held a first round of talks with visiting Mozambican counterpart Pascoal Manuel Mocumbi. During this

working session, attended by the delegation accompanying Mocumbi and Filali's close aides, the two ministers reviewed cooperation existing between the two countries and means of upgrading it in various fields.

Mocumbi also briefed Filali on the situation prevailing in southern Africa, mainly in his war-torn country and in neighbouring South Africa.

The Mozambican foreign minister arrived here on Sunday [10 September] afternoon, on an official visit to Morocco, his first, at Filali's invitation.

French Foreign Ministry Official Arrives

Comments on Lebanon

LD1109153789 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Francois Scheer, secretary general of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, arrived at Rabat-Sale airport at noon today on a brief visit to our country.

At the airport, the French official gave a statement to the press in which he pointed out that the French president delegated him to visit a number of Arab capitals to explain the diplomatic moves aimed at establishing a cease-fire in Lebanon so that it can restore its sovereignty. These political moves are carried out with the cooperation of the Arab tripartite committee, entrusted by the Casablanca summit to handle the Lebanese issue.

Holds Talks, Departs

LD1209231989 Rabat MAP in English 1202 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Rabat, Sep. 12. (MAP)—Secretary General of the French Foreign Ministry Francois Scheer left here Monday afternoon at the end of a visit to Morocco during which he held talks with Moroccan officials on the situation in Lebanon and the French diplomatic action to restore a cease-fire there.

Scheer had met Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali and had reiterated France's backing to the moves of the Arab League tripartite committee entrusted by the Arab emergency summit of Casablanca to find a way out to the Lebanese crisis.

Scheer's visit to Morocco is made 48 hour before the committee is to convene in Jeddah at the level of foreign ministers of Morocco, Algeria and Saudi Arabia. The visit was preceded by a tour to Damascus, Beirut, Riyadh and Algiers.

Shaykh Zayid Arrives in Rabat on Private Visit

JN2808203289 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1914 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Rabat, 28 Aug (WAKH)—His Royal Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, United Arab Emirates [UAE] head of state, arrived in Rabat this evening on a private visit to Morocco.

During the visit, his highness will meet with Moroccan Monarch King Hassan II within the framework of continuing contacts and discussions on current Arab issues to serve the Arab nation and support joint Arab action.

Sudan

NSRCC Leader Visits Northern Town of Atbara

Vows to Revamp Railways

EA1209115489 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1717 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Speech by Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, chairman of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council, at rally in Atbara town; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] Brothers, the revolution announces that the railway has an important and leading role to play in constructing a comprehensive national unity and expanding social ties between the sons of the homeland.

The revolution, brothers, is serious about purging the railway of all that has hampered the performance of its historic role in building a united Sudan. The revolution relies on your [word indistinct] and determination to put an end to the dereliction of duties, (?negative attitudes), and corruption.

Brothers, as confirmation of the revolution's concern for the railway and its great role in the construction process, I shall personally supervise the programs for developing and rehabilitating this important facility [applause]. We shall soon (?celebrate) the reactivation of all our railway lines to their utmost capacity with the same precision and discipline we used to see in the heyday of our rail services, when watches were set to the arrival and departure of trains from stations.

Brothers, I am pleased to announce here the start of productivity competitions between the sections and departments of the railway, for which we have allocated prizes amounting to 50,000 Sudanese pounds every year for the successful units. The prizes may be increased. We are doing this because production is at a level which the revolution is striving to double. We shall not permit—the revolution will not permit—anything, under any pretext, to reduce this level or damage it. The revolution will not hesitate to amputate the treacherous hands opposing the popular consensus by reducing production. [passage omitted]

Discusses Special Courts

EA1209174889 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Speech by Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council, before executive leaders of the northern region, in Atbara town—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. God be praised and salutations be upon God's messenger. God's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you. We are in fact very pleased at the splendid reception we have been given by the northern region as represented by the town of Atbara. [passage omitted]

The fact is that we decided to make the northern region the first area we visited outside of Khartoum as a gesture of honor and an expression of gratitude, because we are aware of the tragedies, the problems, and obstacles facing the northern region. We are aware of the suffering endured by this region. It is a region which has been subjected to premeditated neglect, planned neglect. The premeditated plan to destroy and humiliate the northern region began with the neglect of the railways. [passage omitted]

We shall be establishing special courts, in conjunction with the state security courts, to try those people who have misappropriated sugar supplies. These will not be the same as the price courts. [passage omitted].

Those affected will be those in the black market—the employee who diverted the goods, the trader who bought them, those who hoarded them, and those who sold them. There will be three types of sentences, ranging from execution at the highest to a fine of 10,000 [Sudanese] pounds at the lowest. The property of those convicted will be confiscated, as will property of their wives and children, since all of it has been unlawfully gained. [passage omitted] We shall show no mercy toward those who showed none to the people.

Our aim is to be just because injustice is darkness. We shall have no mercy on those who wronged the people. We shall afflict those who have afflicted the people—an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. We shall wage war on those who made the people hungry, who caused people to be displaced, who caused them to suffer. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, let me thank you, the leaders of Atbara, as leaders of the northern region. I pledge before you that we shall stay awake far into the night to eradicate the injustices and wrongs to which the northern region has been subjected. I cannot say to you that we will eradicate them within days, but we shall spend long hours and exert maximum efforts so that the northern region is not subjected to such injustices and neglect again. The northern region will be one of our priorities, because it is our hope that this region will (?feed) the Sudanese people and save us from begging. There are resources. [Word indistinct] agricultural projects. [passage omitted]

National Conference Reviews Religion, Race

AB1109201589 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 11 Sep 89

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Today is the 3d day of the Khartoum Government's national conference in Sudan, called to come up with proposals for a settlement in the southern civil war. Twenty-three of the 84 people at the conference are from the south. And at the weekend, Sudan's military leader, General al-Bashir, spelled out the meeting's terms of reference in his opening address. From Khartoum, Alfred Taban telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] Opening the conference, Al-Bashir said that he was looking for a new form of government acceptable to all Sudanese of all cultures and beliefs. He asked the 84 conferees to come up with a type of government that retains the country's cultural diversity within the framework of a united state. He said the form of government should not be brought about at the expenses of any culture or creed. The type of government we want, he said, is that which fully observes freedom of religion and guarantees the participation of all in power. The committee was addressed by Dr Francis Deng, a former state minister of foreign affairs and currently a scholar in the United States.

Dr Deng's address brought to the fore the issues that have divided Sudan for so long. One of these issues is that of religion. Dr Deng, who is a Christian, said that if Sudan is to be built as one entity, emphasis should be placed on issues that the Sudanese people agree upon. He implied that religion, being a (?contentious) issue, should not be on top of the priorities of the state. To this, several northern Muslims raised their hands to object. They said that to them, the issue of religion cannot be separated from the state and their lives. They said that if they are to choose between Sudan and Islam, they would chose Islam first.

On the issue of race, the southerners and northerners also disagreed. Dr Deng, giving the southern viewpoint, said for the Sudanese to be effective in the Arab or African arena, they should first find themselves a Sudanese identity. However, the northerners said that they don't consider Arabs to be a race. They said they consider a person like Dr Deng, who speaks fluent Arabic, to be an Arab. Dr Deng objected to this. He said it is absurd to consider him an Arab and his brothers, who don't speak Arabic as non-Arabs. [end recording]

Conference Asks Movement To Send Representative

EA0909215089 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] The national dialogue conference on peace issues has issued the following appeal to the representatives of the [Sudanese People's Liberation] movement to participate in the conference:

The national dialogue conference on peace issues has convened. A number of Sudanese citizens with different ideological orientations have gathered together with the aim of reaching a national consensus on a suitable plan for a just peace. It is expected to come up with a political formula and a system of rule that will ensure multicultural diversity within the framework of a united homeland. Its task is to ensure effective participation on the basis of citizenship and to prepare the way for equal development and just distribution of wealth, taking cultural and geographic diversity into account.

The first national dialogue conference has made it clear that an atmosphere of freedom and genuine desire to probe the depth of all our national problems, with the aim of reaching successful solutions to them, is essential to the development of the homeland.

The conference, in which you are not represented, extends to you a warm national appeal and invites you to send a representative of the movement to enrich this sincere national dialogue so that together we can lay a foundation for peace, unity, and progress in our motherland.

SPLA Calls Peace Committee 'Comical'

EA1209172089 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Commentary entitled: "The Junta's Peace Committee: What Chances of Success?"]

[Text] Since Brigadier 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir assumed power in Khartoum on 30 June, hardly a day passes without him talking about peace. He once said that his first priority was to bring about peace to the war-torn country. The reactions to his utterances were mixed.

Many skeptics doubted his credentials and his seriousness, both of which are pivotal in undertaking such a national issue. Others, including the SPLM/SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Army] leadership gave him the benefit of the doubt and waited for concrete steps. Very few, indeed, were taken in by his simplistic utterances and bogus talk about peace. As time went by, his so-called peace program began to unravel, giving way to a hollow propaganda and incessant lies.

The latest step in this drama is his comical formation last week of a so-called peace committee to discuss a formula for peace in Sudan. Al-Bashir got it all wrong, and he should have realized by now that even this gimmick is fraught with difficulties and therefore unlikely to lead to a meaningful and lasting peace. Simply put: The junta is not serious to bring about peace, and its record speaks for itself.

First, when the junta assumed power, the first thing they did was to crack down on all the democratic liberties and bodies—the political parties, trade unions, the press, and so on—and almost simultaneously began to talk that it will send a delegation the SPLM/SPLA so that the two agree on how to end the war and bring about peace.

Therefore, in the view of the junta, popular participation in resolving the Sudanese problems is not only unnecessary, but completely out of question. What was needed is for the two armies, that is the SPLA and the junta, on behalf of the government army, to agree, and all will be milk and honey. In the words of Al-Bashir: to talk soldier to soldier to bring about peace.

Shallow as it is, even this approach was clouded with a lot of mystifications and disinformation. Al-Bashir was shown on Sudan television at one end of a telephone line, reportedly talking to Dr John Garang at a time when no contact was made between the SPLM/SPLA and the junta. A delegation of the junta was sent to Addis Ababa in July to meet the movement without contacts, let alone making prior arrangements for the meeting to take place. A lot of fuss was made about the need to talk without preconditions, and so on. These are but a few examples showing the insincerity of the junta to bring about peace.

Second, when the two delegations finally met in August, the last vestige of the junta's peace pretences was completely exploded and exposed to the entire world for what it really is. The junta simply has got no program, not even a skeleton of what can constitute a good basis for peace. From the outset, the junta's delegation rejected the November 1988 agreement, but presented no alternative to it. Admittedly, the rejection of this agreement by the junta is consistent with its antidemocratic stance. The agreement enjoyed wide popular support spanning all cross sections of the Sudanese political spectrum. The only dissenting voice was, and still is, the NIF [National Islamic Front]. This rejectionist attitude is what eventually led to the failure of the talks. Nevertheless, the two sides agreed to meet again when the junta had something to discuss. The venue was to be Addis Ababa and the time to be agreed upon by both sides.

Third, when the junta formed its so-called peace committee last week, it was not clear what it presented, nor what it was supposed to do. Was this an about turn by the junta to involve popular participation? Was it just a committee to advise the junta? Or, was it still a substitute for the national constitutional conference? The act of trying to fathom the nature of this mysterious body was made the more difficult by the contradictory statements and actions of the junta members.

The junta invited the SPLM/SPLA leader to attend and Al-Bashir went on the air, giving assurances for his safety in Khartoum, but then, the head of the committee and

member of the junta, Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, said that the conference can proceed with or without the SPLA, because, he continued, the SPLA does not represent Sudan, nor does it represent the south. However, in all this haze of confusion and contradictions, one thing comes out very clearly: that is, the junta is not serious to bring about peace, and this committee is nothing but another ploy to buy itself more time.

Why? Let us start with the nature of the committee itself. Definitely, it could not be a substitute for the national constitutional conference, for, by definition, such a conference must be attended by the true representatives of all the political parties and the trade unions in the country. Hand-picked individuals, whatever qualifications they may claim, can only speak for the person who picked them. Hence, on this count alone, this so-called peace committee can only be one of the many committees the junta has recently set up in Khartoum to help it push through with the intricacies of ruling. It does not, and cannot in any way represent the different shades of political opinions in the country, the leaders of which still languish behind bars.

Be this as it is, the invitation of the junta for the SPLM/SPLA to attend the meeting of this committee is both nefarious and ill-intentioned. Obviously, the SPLM/SPLA could not serve on a committee of the junta. Even if the movement were to accept this unlikely participation, was it given enough time to send its representatives? The invitation was sent on Thursday when the meeting was to take place on Saturday, 2 days after. How on earth could somebody have moved from the bushes of Sudan to arrive in Khartoum in so short a time? This is to say nothing about the time needed for the leadership of the movement to convene and discuss the invitation. Or is the junta taking the SPLM/SPLA for granted? We are not surprised by 'Umar al-Bashir's tactics to stall the peace process. Indeed, he is, so far, following the latter—the strategy of the National Islamic Front, the hub of which is to unite the so-called internal front in order to defeat the SPLA militarily. Then and only then could peace be achieved.

As a soldier, 'Umar al-Bashir should have known better, but as it is said: Fanaticism blindfolds. We advise him to come to his senses because such a course of action can only lead to more suffering for the Sudanese people.

One final word to the participants in this so-called peace committee: We genuinely appeal to all the nationalistic and democratic elements to boycott this parody of a democratic exercise. It is a hoax.

Ousted Regime Member To Go on Trial 14 Sep

AB1109204289 Paris AFP in English 1748 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, Sept 11 (AFP)—The first southern member of Sudan's previous regime to be tried for corruption by a special military court is Pacifico Lado Loleik, who was one of the five members of the collegiate presidency known as the Council of Sovereignty.

He is to appear in Court on Thursday [14 Sep], charged with hoarding "commercial quantities" of medicines, soap, sugar and rice, the ruling military junta's paper AL-GUWWAT AL-MUSALIAHA reported Monday.

Mr. Loleik is the third member of the civilian government ousted on June 30 to answer corruption charges.

The first was Idriss al-Banna, deputy head of the collegiate presidency, who has been jailed for 20 years for abuse of power and embezzlement of public funds.

The second was Justice Minister 'Uthman 'Umar al-Sharif, who also held the Housing portfolio. He is being tried for abuse of power and illegal allocation of plots in residential sectors of the capital. His sentence is expected next Saturday.

'Ali Shummu Cited on Negotiations With Garang

JN1209101889 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 9 Sep 89 p 1

[Report by Muhammad 'Ali al-Qulaybi from Tunis]

[Text] In an exclusive statement to AL-MADINAH, Sudanese Information Minister 'Ali Shummu has affirmed that repealing the Islamic laws is not the only option available to us because negotiations with the Garang movement might produce a mutually acceptable option. He added: If no option is agreed upon, we must choose between peace and war. Then, the issue will be put to the Sudanese people, who will have the final say in this regard; this is how democracy works.

'Ali Shummu noted that the Garang movement affirmed more than once that its concerns are first and foremost political in nature. Hence, the Garange movement's concerns have nothing to do with the Islamic shari'ah contained in the September laws of 1983, he added. He went on to say that Garang's demand for abolishing these laws as a precondition for any negotiations was rejected by the national salvation revolution. 'Ali Shummu reiterated that the abolition of the Islamic shari'ah laws is not the only option available. He added that there are numerous options proposed for negotiations, such as amending or omitting provisions of the penal code or applying Islamic laws on Muslims only.

The Sudanese information minister asserted that the national salvation revolution is aware of the tasks awaiting it and of the reality of the situation in the country. He added that if this revolution fails to resolve the people's problems, it will step down and give up authority. He added that the basic issues preoccupying the salvation revolution are related to neither authority nor the problem of governing. Rather, these issues pertain to putting people to work, increasing production, and stimulating the economy.

Culture Minister Shummu Receives Omani Envoy

EA1009216589 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 2145 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] This morning Mr 'Ali Muhammad Shummu, minister of culture and information, met in his office His Excellency Mr Mubarak ibn-Khalfan ibn-Najim al-Sabbahi, the Sultanate of Oman's ambassador to Khartoum. The meeting discussed bilateral relations between the two countries and ways of strengthening them, particularly in the information and cultural field.

His excellency the ambassador also assured the minister of his eagerness to give Sudanese television an opportunity to present the Sultanate's news, thereby creating a news link between the two countries.

Dam Project Declined Because of Lack of Funds

EA1009164289 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 2145 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Eng Musa Ya'qub Abu Shura, minister of irrigation and water resources, says that a report released by World Bank experts estimates the cost of elevating the al-Rusayris Dam at about $38 million. His excellency says that the dam-elevation project will not be undertaken because it would be impractical to try to find the necessary finances. He says the project will not be carried out despite the benefits and the importance of the project in terms of ensuring irrigation water for agricultural projects and generating hydroelectric power.

His excellency also says that Sudan's annual consumption of water, at present, is estimated at about 16 million cubic meters. Sudan's original fixed quota, under the terms of the Nile waters agreement, is equivalent to 20 billion cubic meters of water.

ELF Thanks Government for Efforts in Eritrea

EA1009173389 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Sep (SUNA)—Staff Brigadier al-Zubayr Muhammad Salih, deputy chairman of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council, yesterday in Khartoum received Mr Umar Said al-Burj, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Eritrean Liberation Front [ELF]. The ELF Executive Committee extended thanks to the Government of Sudan for its efforts to solve the Eritrean issue. The meeting also discussed issues concerning the two sides.

Special Court Sentences Marijuana Dealers

EA1109203089 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Madani, Sudan, 11 Sep—The Kosti special court yesterday, Sunday, sentenced three men accused of trading in drugs to 25 years in prison each. This was in accordance with the punishments outlined in Act 4 of the Marijuana and Opium Law 179. Marijuana bundles were seized weighing 9,065 grams from the accused.

The court, which was headed by Staff Colonel Ahmad Bakir, pointed out that [word indistinct] danger of marijuana crimes which destroy communities and cost the state enormous sums of money to combat. The court freed three other people accused of the same offense.

Kuwait

Minister Calls for Stronger Ties With Iran

LD1209153389 Tehran IRNA in English 1428 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Kuwait, Sept. 12, IRNA—The Kuwaiti interior minister Tuesday called for strengthening of ties between his country and the Islamic Republic of Iran through bilateral cooperation in regional affairs.

In a meeting with Iranian charge d'affaires Javad Torkabadi here, Sheikh Salam al-Sabah termed the last week's meeting between Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Kuwaiti amir Shaykh Sabah al-Salam al-Sabah in Belgrade as "a new chapter in mutual relations."

Torkabadi in reply described relations between the two neighboring Muslim nations as "rooted" and with a "bright prospect."

He referred to the imminent arrival of the new Iranian ambassador in Kuwait and expressed hope that bilateral ties would further expand.

In June, Hoseyn Sadeqi, the head of the Foreign Ministry's 1st Political Bureau was appointed as the new ambassador of the Islamic Republic to Kuwait. He is expected to arrive here in 10 days.

The two countries have never severed ties but lowered mutual relations to the level of charge d'affaires in may in a row over Kuwait's support for Iraq in its war against Iran.

Amir Briefs Cabinet on Nonaligned Summit

LD0909161789 Kuwait KUNA in English 1357 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 9 (KUNA)—H.H. the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir Al-Ahmad al-Sabah briefed a special cabinet session Saturday on outcome of his recent visits to Egypt, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Turkey.

State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashid 'Abd al-Aziz al-Rashid told reporters that the amir was especially satisfied with results of his trip to Egypt during which discussions revealed identical views towards all issues tackled.

The amir also informed the cabinet members on the nonaligned summit deliberations in which he took part as head of the Kuwaiti delegation, Al-Rashid said. He added that H.H. the amir's initiative on the international debt problem of the Third World nations was met with welcome and interest by the summiteers.

The amir had proposed at a U.N. address a year ago writing off the debts of the least developed nations. His highness briefed the ministers, in the meeting also attended by H.H. Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah al-Sabah, on his few-hour visits to Bulgaria and Turkey to exchange views with their heads of state Todor Zhivkov and Kenan Evren, respectively, on their dispute.

H.H. the amir, in his capacity as current chairman of the Organization of Islamic Conference, had earlier dispatched an OIC team to both capitals to mediate in ending their rift over status of the Moslem minority of Turkish origin in Bulgaria.

The cabinet, for its part, Al-Rashid went on, appreciated H.H.'s role at the NAM summit which greatly reflected Kuwait's image as an advocate of solutions to problems of the human society.

Yemen Arab Republic

President Salih Receives Syria's Khaddam

JN1309070289 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received at his office last night brother 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam, vice president of the fraternal Syrian Arab Republic, who conveyed a message to the president from his brother President Hafiz al-Asad. The message deals with relations between the two fraternal countries and developments in the Arab arena.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed issues of interest to both countries and the Arab nation, particularly the Lebanese situation and the means to end the suffering of the fraternal Lebanese people in a manner that would guarantee their unity, sovereignty, independence, and Arabism.

Salih, Al-Qadhdhafi Discuss Arab Issues, Ties

JN1209075889 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] A telephone conversation was held between brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress; and his brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan 1 September Revolution, during which they exchanged views on developments in the Arab arena and discussed fraternal relations between the two countries.

Saddam Husayn Receives Zambian Defense Minister

JN1209120189 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Sep (INA)—President Saddam Husayn received Zambian Defense Minister Frederich Shumba Hapunda today. Hapunda conveyed a written message to President Saddam Husayn from Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda on relations between the two friendly countries and the means of promoting those relations.

Defense Minister Staff General 'Abd-al-Jabbar Shanshal also attended the meeting.

Tariq 'Aziz Returns From Arab League Meetings

JN1309075789 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0645 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 13 Sep (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Baghdad today after participating in the meetings of the 92d session of the Arab League Council. The meetings were held in Tunis yesterday, Tuesday. [passage omitted]

Interior Ministry Statement on Security Efforts

JN1209161089 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 9 Sep 89 p 8

[Statement issued by the Iraqi Ministry of Interior on 8 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Statement by the Ministry of Interior:

My Lord, make this a city of peace. [Koranic verse]

Over the past few days, the city of Baghdad and some governorates have witnessed extensive efforts by the men of the internal security forces, who guard citizens' security and comfort, in the search for a number of deviants whose wicked and satanic instincts and intentions have prompted them to carry out criminal acts that were aimed at some citizens' security, property, and comfort.

All these criminals have either been arrested or killed while they were being chased.

While announcing this, we pledge to leader President Saddam Husayn—may God preserve him—that the men of the internal security forces will continue to safeguard citizens' security and comfort and will be ready to exert all efforts to protect citizens and guard their property from any harm. The internal security men will continue to be the swords that cut off the hands of the tamperers in order to maintain Iraq's security and peace.

The full details will be declared later through the mass media.

[Signed] The Ministry of Interior

Local Version of T-74 Tank Under Production

NC1309080389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Sep (MENA)—The United Arab Emirates newspaper AL-ITTIHAD reports that the Iraqi Military Industries Organization is implementing a major program to produce a local version of the Soviet T-74 main battle tank. The Iraqi tank, called the Lion of Babylon [Asad Babil], will be produced under the terms of a recent agreement with Moscow.

Citing military sources, the newspaper says that the first Lion of Babylon tank has already been produced. It adds that the production program is in full swing to meet the Iraqi Armed Forces' requirements for these tanks over the coming years.

The Lion of Babylon tank belongs to the current generation of main battle tanks. It is fitted with a 125-mm gun and features heavy armor and high maneuverability.

Votes Tallied in Kurdistan Council Elections

Final Results Announced

JN1309080689 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The names of the winners in yesterday's elections for the sixth term of the Legislative Council of the autonomous region of Kurdistan were announced today.

In a statement issued today, the higher committee supervising the elections for the Legislative Council said: This democratic practice was historically important, not only because it took place in peacetime, but also because it embodied leader President Saddam Husayn's campaign to develop democratic life and broaden popular participation. The election also came after many resolutions were adopted within the framework of the great course followed by his excellency, in particular the announcement on drafting a permanent constitution for the country and the expansion of the multi-party system and the administrative revolution. These efforts are designed to enhance the cultural development of our dear country. [passage omitted]

The following are the names of those who won membership of the Legislative Council of the Kurdistan autonomous region:

Irbil Governorate, First Constituency:

'Abd-al-Razzaq Shihab-al-Din 'Abd-al-Qadir al-Dabbagh
Husam Dawud Khadr al-Sabzaji
Kakil Hamad Mawlud
Yunus 'Abdallah Fathallah Haddad
Nazim Yunus Sa'id

Irbil Governorate, Second Constituency:

Tal'at Hadi Ahmad
Hasan Husayn-'Allah Dad al-Dalawi
Ibrahim Hamad Amin Ahmad
Rashid Mustafa Kakah 'Abd-al-Karim
Nadir Salih Ahmad

Irbil Governorate, Third Constituency:

'Abd-al-Razzaq Mar'i Hasan al-Luhaybi
'Adil Fannu Khalaf al-Ta'i
'Abd-al-Sattar Khadr 'Ali al-Barazanji
Mahmud Hamad Amin Karim

Irbil Governorate, Fourth Constituency:

Buya Tuma 'Udish Kwarda
Shirku Ibrahim Jalal al-Huwayzi
Wariya Bayiz Jamil Kahradi
Qasim Faris Tahir

Irbil Governorate, Fifth Constituency:

Zayd 'Umar Khadr al-Sawraji
Faris Muhammad Qadir al-Sawraji
Jalal Haj Khurshid 'Uthman

Al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate, First Constituency:

Ja'far 'Abd-al-Karim Husayn al-Barazanji
Isma'il Khadr Amin al-Barazanji
Salih Zurab Basha
Fa'iq Tahir Rashid
Jalal 'Asa'd Rida Jarmaka

Al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate, Second Constituency:

Baha'-al-Din Ahmad Faraj
Sabihah Salih Karim
'Izz-al-Din Majid 'Ali al-Jaf
Latif Muhammad Amin Qadir
Muhammad 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Aziz

Al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate, Third Constituency:

Hushin Mustafa Fattah
Sabah Ra'uf 'Abd-al-Qadir al-Barazanji
Majid Ahmad Nasrallah
Muhammad Ahmad 'Umar Nurwali

Al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate, Fourth Constituency:

Tayyib Shaykh Muhammad 'Uthman al-Barazanji
Hakim Anwar Mawlud
Shafiq Rahim Himmah al-Zankanah
Fatimah Ahmad Qadir

Al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate, Fifth Constituency:

Rasul Isma'il Amin
Faqi Ahmad Amin Lajani
Rashid Anwar Rashid Khushnaw
Hamzah 'Abbas Mamand Aku

Dahuk Governorate, First Constituency:

Hikmat Haji Salim al-Atrushi
Sakfan Husayn Ahmad al-Bamirni
Mushir Husayn Ahmad al-Dusaki
Bahzad Muhammad Hasan 'Abd-al-Hamid Baltah

Dahuk Governorate, Second Constituency:

'Umar Bashshad Salih al-Sindi
Khalil Haji 'Abdi al-Sulayfani
Jalal Amin 'Abd-al-Rahman

Some 784,338 voters participated in the elections for the Legislative Council to elect 50 members out of 174 candidates. The elections were held at 211 polling stations throughout the three governorates of the autonomous region. [passage omitted]

Jasim Reviews Elections

JN1209150589 Baghdad INA in English 1435 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 12, INA—Iraqi Minister of Culture and Information Latif Nusayyif Jasim said democracy is a national duty shouldered by the state towards the people. It is an expanding educational process for attaining its ultimate and under leadership of President Saddam Husayn.

In a news conference held here today attended by Arab and foreign journalists who participated in covering elections of the Legislative Council of Kurdistan Autonomy Region, the minister added that the elections of the sons of our Kurdish people to choose their legitimate representatives at the Legislative Council were held in peace circumstances and termination of the rebellion in the north. Those elections were characterized with honourable competition among the Kurds themselves.

During the meeting, the minister reviewed the changes and democratic exercise witnessed in Iraq. He pointed out that within the frame of the democratic changes, three ad hoc committees were set up, namely, on reconsidering the Constitution, licencing parties and free press.

In his replies to Arab and foreign journalists, the minister reviewed the huge development projects and the achievements in reconstruction of the war-affected cities, referring to Iraq's principled stance towards establishment of permanent and comprehensive peace and repatriation of prisoners of war between Iraq and Iran.

Paper Blames U.S. for 'Stalled' Peace Process

TA1209165489 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 11 Sep 89 p 4

[Editorial: "Who Is To Blame?"]

[Text] The U.S. insistence that the Israeli proposal for elections in the occupied territories is the only viable avenue to proceed with the peace process has actually killed any life in that peace process. Life in the peace process was put there by the PLO peace initiatives over the past 10 months and an incredible show of flexibility, which, unfortunately, was not appreciated enough by the U.S. Administration.

It is obvious now that the peace process is stalled. The United States and the PLO have been exchanging harsh words, each accusing the other of obstructing the peace process. The Unites States claims the PLO's refusal to accept the Israeli plan for elections is the reason the peace process is stalled. The PLO says the U.S. insistence on the plan is what is killing the peace process.

Meanwhile, the peace process is at a standstill; Israel is proceeding and ever more vigorously in its campaign to crush the intifadah [uprising]; more Palestinians are being killed; and there is a growing feeling of despair and frustration, more so among the Palestinians than among any other people—a feeling that was not there several weeks ago.

Who is to blame for the stalled peace process? The PLO cannot be blamed, because the entire world was witness to Palestinian flexibility and the sincere willingness to contribute to a peaceful settlement acceptable to all parties to the conflict. The PLO was commended by many world governments, most particularly in Western Europe, for its contributions to peace, and it was rewarded by recognitions and invitations to meet heads of state. With all the PLO concessions for peace, nothing was reciprocated from the other party to the conflict, Israel.

The United States is to receive the lion's share of the blame, and Israel to a lesser extent. Israel gets the lesser part of the blame, even though its obstinance is the main block to any peace settlement, simply because it is expected to be obstinant, as it is one of the two major parties to the conflict. No one expects Israel to come out and agree to a peace settlement without first driving a very hard bargain, just like no one should expect the Palestinians to accept whatever is being put to them on the table without bargaining with whatever power they have to get a decent settlement.

What is not understood is why the United States is acting more Israeli than the Israelis themselves. The Israeli Labor Party, the partner to Likud in the Israeli Government, is not too happy with the elections plan, which was presented by hard-line Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Labor Party leaders have themselves declared the elections plan dead and are accusing Likud of causing the deadlock in the peace process because of their inflexibility and their stress on the wrong issues for a settlement, such as first resolving the Palestinian refugee problem through rehabilitating refugees rather than through an all-out political settlement.

If the Israeli Labor Party is holding Likud responsible for the deadlock, why is the United States insisting on holding the PLO responsible for that? And if Labor does not see much hope with the election plan, why is the United States still insisting that elections are the only way for starting the peace process?

These and many other questions await answers from the U.S. Administration. The peace process can be moved forward with good U.S. intentions and a real desire to act as peace-broker. The United States is already heavily involved in the Middle East conflict. It is therefore expected to contribute positively to resolving this conflict.

Sinyurah on U.S.-PLO Dialogue, Egypt's Role

TA1209173989 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 11 Sep 89 p 16

[Interview with AL-FAJR editor-in-chief Hanna Sinyurah by Mahir Abu-Khatir; date, place not given]

[Text] Q: Sweden is once again mediating between the U.S. and the PLO. Does this indicate there are serious problems in the PLO-U.S. dialogue?

A: The last session in the U.S.-PLO dialogue resulted in the present political deadlock. Ambassador Pelletreau, in no uncertain terms, informed the PLO delegation that the U.S. Administration fully backs the Shamir plan, and adopted a second Israeli position, that the PLO should authorize a local Palestinian delegation to negotiate the terms of the elections. This caused a crisis in the U.S.-PLO relations, because it is a cardinal principle, not only to the PLO but to all Palestinians, that only an authorized delegation from inside and outside (the occupied territories) can start such talks. Also in the Palestinian camp, it was felt that powerful, influential parties in the U.S. State Department favored giving the Israeli Government more time to militarily crush the intifadah [uprising]. This has led to the present political impasse, the increased repressive measures and a counterescalation by Palestinians. The Swedish Government, and Foreign Minister Sten Andersson personally, have been responsible for bridging U.S.-PLO differences and for starting the dialogue. Presently, Swedish efforts are to expand and upgrade the dialogue, as well as persuade the Bush administration to grant an entry visa to President 'Arafat to attend the fall session of the UN.

Q: There is talk that Egypt's 10 points for a settlement are getting U.S. support and that Egypt is working on the PLO to accept them. How do you feel about these points and do you think they are satisfactory for a just settlement?

A: Egypt is the only country in the mediation process that recognizes the national rights of both parties to the conflict. It is better qualified to play an effective role in breaking the present political impasse than even a superpower such as the United States. Egypt and Palestine are both members of the Arab League, and Egypt is the only Arab country that has both a peace treaty and diplomatic relations with Israel. Egypt's "10 points" are not a peace plan or a peace initiative, they are devised to draw clarifications on several issues that are ambiguous in the Shamir plan, and they embody principles that are basic to a resolution of the conflict, such as "land for peace" and implementing UN resolutions, positions accepted by both East and West as well as the Arab countries and the PLO.

The United States can help break the present deadlock by indicating its attitude toward those "10 points." In Israel the standing of the members of the coalition on the "10 points" might be a signal of political developments in the short term.

Washington Seeking To 'Revive' Election Plan

TA1209125589 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Sep 89 p 11

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff: "Another Chance for the Initiative"]

[Text] The plan for elections in the territories has been dying, but is not dead yet. The Americans and the Egyptians want to revive it and give it a new push, and they are seeking Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's help to that end. The specifics of the plan were processed in Egypt and were later submitted to Washington for approval.

What does the new proposal say? The Egyptians would summon a conference in Cairo; the Palestinians who would be invited to attend would be figures from the territories who would be joined by several Palestinians from outside the territories. These would not be people with official positions in the PLO, so as not to provide Shamir with an excuse to object to their participation. The "outsiders" may come from among the ranks of those deported by Israel in the course of the intifadah [uprising]. President Mubarak will try to persuade 'Arafat to accept this formula in their meeting this week.

Representatives of the United States and the Soviet Union would be invited to the conference. This would circumvent the international conference feared by Israel but would, on the other hand, benefit from the auspices of the two superpowers. Another temptation would be laid out for Shamir: During the conference, after progress was made in the deliberations, the Egyptian president and the Israeli prime minister would hold their first summit. The participation of a Soviet representative would probably bring in its wake the resumption of relations between Israel and the Soviet Union. Were the PLO to accept this formula and drop its demand that the Palestinians from outside the territories should hold official positions in the organization, Israel would have a hard time staying out of such a conference without risking a confrontation with Washington. At this point, Washington holds the PLO and 'Arafat personally responsible for the deadlock in the election initiative. A change in the PLO's position concerning the list of Palestinian representatives would evoke full U.S. support for the Egyptian initiative. Israel would have a hard time not showing up for a conference where U.S., Egyptian, and Palestinian representatives are waiting. In his speech to the Labor Party Bureau in mid-July, Rabin grabbed the attention of State Department officials when he said, among other things: "If Egypt comes and says: We have an understanding with the Palestinians; these are the men with whom you will conduct the negotiations—I would be in favor, and I do not care who the Egyptians coordinated their positions with." Rabin also added: "Palestinians from outside the territories, to be agreed upon between Egypt and Palestinians in the territories, would take part in the negotiations on the permanent solution." In fact, this was an invitation to Egypt to proceed in putting together the Palestinian delegation, and this is what Cairo has been doing in cooperation with Washington.

The offices of the prime minister and Foreign Minister Arens have been emitting different signals. They have recently banned Likud members from participating in conferences abroad attended by Palestinian representatives from the territories, such as Faysal al-Husayni, Sari Nusaybah, and Radwan Abu-'Ayyash. If these men—considered to be "authentic Palestinians"—are rejected, it means that the Likud has trouble stomaching even the representatives from the territories. The situation is no less complicated regarding the PLO. The Americans concede that the PLO has toughened its positions. The Fatah conference resolutions are a clear departure from 'Arafat's statements in Geneva. To this day, the Palestinians persist in their refusal to allow the residents of the territories to choose a delegation to negotiate with Israel on the elections. 'Arafat fears that Israel and the United States have conspired to leave him out of the political process. As far as it is concerned, the PLO is not at all sure that elections in the territories are definitely a good idea. The PLO leadership is not convinced that it should agree to the U.S. way of moving slowly from one step to the next. This is why it is not yet certain that the PLO will accept the Egyptian initiative to the letter.

So far, the Americans have failed in their dialogue with the PLO. If the new move fails as well, they will be faced with a dilemma. They will have to decide whether to accept their failure, let the Israeli initiative die, and put the Israeli-Palestinian conflict at the bottom of their list until the issue is "riper."

Washington had to spend time and mental energy defusing setbacks instead of taking small steps forward. This was the case with the Likud convention and the braces, the Fatah conference, the horrid terrorist attack in which a bus was driven into a ravine, and even with regard to its efforts to prevent the acceptance of Senator

Helms' proposal to ban negotiations with any Palestinians who had been involved in terror against Americans. The alternative would be to come out with a big initiative, a big move.

But that is not the mood prevailing in Washington. The opinion is that it would be better to fail on a small and almost invisible move, rather than end up with a massive failure. Hence, if the current effort fails, Washington will opt for waiting until the next flare-up.

Q: Israel is employing harsher methods to crush the intifadah, and Palestinians are calling for an escalation in the intifadah. Are these reflections of the current deadlock in the peace process?

A: Certainly the past few months have seen harsher, more severe measures being applied by the Israeli Government in the occupied Palestinian state. Certain quarters in the government believe this will abort and crush the Intifadah. The response from the Palestinian side has been an escalation in the level of confrontation, with greater sacrifices. The lesson to learn is that such severe measures by the occupation forces are not going to alleviate the situation. On the contrary, it's going to escalate the level of resistance, and its political reverberations are detrimental to the peace process. It should also open the eyes of the Israeli Government to a basic reality, that force will not serve the cause of peace, and that such policies will backlash in both camps to poison the political atmosphere and bury any peaceful efforts. The present political deadlock is only partially responsible for the present escalation in the confrontation; the main onus should be shouldered by those who believe in a military solution.

Q: The United States is too busy with many issues, such as the fight against drugs, but Western European countries are not busy with anything. Yet they are also not giving the Palestinian question enough attention, as they have done in the past. Why is Europe now taking this cool position on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict?

A: A lesson we Palestinians learned in the past 22 months, which has set us on the right course to end the occupation, is to rely mainly on our own efforts. This lesson we didn't take seriously in our past, and for many decades we learned to be dependent on others, from the Arab countries to the United Nations. It's important that the international community, the European community, the Soviet Union and especially the Arab countries help us find a solution to the conflict. Yet I subscribe to the theory that Palestinians and Israelis alone (both on the official and non-official levels) are capable of opening wide the doors for peace. Whatever they will agree upon will eventually be adopted by the rest of the world. The most intensive efforts should be directed toward this field. As leaflet number 45 indicated, serious efforts should be invested to reach and convince the Israeli public about the sincerity of the Palestinian peace campaign.

Also, I wholly subscribe to efforts being directed toward the rest of the world, and certainly toward Europe. European governments have played a pioneering role in political trends for the past several years. These trends and new positions have been more felt in the diplomatic political sense, but have not resulted yet in ending the occupation. That role must be shouldered mostly by us, the Palestinians. This is our duty to our people and our country.

U.S. Embassy Employees Arrested for Visa Plan

TA1209191489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Four Israeli employees of the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv have been arrested in connection with a scheme to sell American visas. A statement issued by the embassy says that the four were arrested yesterday by Israeli police. Embassy officials said procedures to acquire visas had been changed as a result of the incident, but they gave no further details of the alleged conspiracy.

U.S. Deputy Consul's Car 'Set on Fire'

TA1309094689 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0930 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] The car of the U.S. deputy consul in Jerusalem was set on fire this morning. Our police affairs correspondent Shlomi Stein reports that early this morning, the Ford Escort vehicle was set on fire in the Ra's al-'Amud neighborhood in East Jerusalem. The vehicle was badly damaged. The police have launched an investigation.

Reaction to Egypt's 10-Point Peace Plan

Defense Minister Comments

TA1209175289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Report by Nati Zilberman on the Labor Party Central Committee meeting in Karmi'el on 12 September]

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin does not believe the 10-point plan should be raised for discussion in the Inner Cabinet.

[Begin Rabin recording] I see no need why Israel should accept or reject Mubarak's 10-point plan. This plan was formulated over a month ago. It is an Egyptian approach which I can understand. Moreover, I have heard from U.S. Administration officials that they view it as an acceptance in principle of the notion of elections in the territories in which the Palestinians—of themselves and by themselves—will elect an authorized representation with which we will conduct negotiations on how to revert from the current state of affairs to a permanent peace in two stages.

Israel has its own political plan, which was manifested in the Cabinet resolution of 14 May 1988, and became known as the Israeli Government's peace plan. This is the Israeli political plan.

All we want is one thing—and I believe the entire peace plan depends on that same thing: We want to know whether there will be a partner, an interlocutor, from among the inhabitants of the territories to talk to us in a bid to implement the main gist of the Israeli initiative. This, in effect, is what we have held talks about with inhabitants of the territories; this is what we held briefings on throughout the world, because this is the essence of the peace initiative. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1700 GMT on 12 September reports that "the defense minister called his visit to the United States successful. He also commented on Bassam Abu-Sharif's suggestion to come to Israel and recommended that he refrain from doing it and instead stay put."]

Arens on 10-Point Plan

TA1209115789 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman]

[Excerpt] The political arena moved to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee this morning when Foreign Minister Moshe Arens appeared before it. Both in his opening remarks before the committee members, as well as in his remarks to the press later, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens explained very clearly: Israel has not received any official message from Egypt regarding the 10 points. There is, therefore, nothing to discuss at this stage. This is what Minister Arens had to say after the committee's debate:

[Begin Arens recording] I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that we have peaceful relations with Egypt. We have diplomatic relations. Our ambassador is stationed in Cairo and the Egyptians have an ambassador here. I maintain contacts with the Egyptian foreign minister, and I have met with the Egyptian president. Neither the Egyptian foreign minister nor the Egyptian ambassador have sent us any initiative or proposal. I presume that when the Egyptians want to relay an initiative, a proposal, or some comments to us, they will do so via the proper channels. [end recording]

Outside the committee's chambers, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens told reporters that if there is a formal appeal, Israel may hold a discussion of the Egyptian 10 points. This could perhaps denote a certain softening in the Likud's position on this matter.

As for the vice prime minister's comments on the issue, Minister Arens said that these declarations are out of place, as Israel has only one initiative, that of the Israeli Government.

Regarding the declaration made by Bassam Abu-Sharif, Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, expressing his desire to come to Jerusalem, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said: This is an attempt to sow dissent within the Israeli political system. [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1105 GMT on 12 September carries the same interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens after the meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on 12 September, with the following additional recorded remarks by Arens regarding Abu-Sharif's proposal: "We have a very clear and consistent line and may find ourselves quite embarrassed if we should diverge from it: We do not talk to the PLO. It is a terrorist organization which continues to carry out terrorist operations, trying to impose a reign of terror over the Arab population of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District. We have nothing to discuss with it. Furthermore, we suggest that others also refrain from talking to it."]

Further on Arens Comments

TA1209182189 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens by Eli Nisan, 12 September, in the Knesset building; in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles—recorded]

[Text] [Arens, broadcast in progress] ...Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid when he meets him on the Israeli initiative in an attempt to garner their support for it. We will hear them out.

[Nisan] Do you believe that the Israeli Cabinet plan for peace in our area and President Mubarak's plan can be bridged?

[Arens] I want to explain and make one thing clear: The Israeli Government did not come out with a plan. It came out with an initiative. Our initiative contains no negotiable propositions. The negotiations will be on the permanent arrangement and on the interim arrangements, when they start. We have suggested steps to take in order to begin the political process. I hope we receive positive reactions to our initiative, and then the political process will indeed begin.

[Nisan] How do you comment on Minister Peres' remarks, made yesterday, saying that if the Palestinians accept Mubarak's 10-point plan, he would press for this issue to be discussed in the Inner Cabinet?

[Arens] I wish to remind you and our viewers that Minister Peres, who also functions as vice prime minister, has supported the four points of the Israeli initiative as presented by the prime minister without reservation or opposition. I heard no proposal from him, not in the Cabinet nor in the Inner Cabinet, to change the Israeli initiative. I expect him and all the other Cabinet ministers to back the Israeli initiative, and not some other proposals.

Likud Faction's Reaction

TA1209114389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] The Likud Knesset faction has said that any undermining of the Israeli Government's peace initiative harms the prospects for peace. The faction's statement says that anyone leaning toward adopting Mubarak's 10-point plan weakens Israel's position and adversely affects its peace initiative.

Ben-Aharon on 10 Points

TA1209164489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Telephone interview with Yosi Ben-Aharon, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, by Gay Zohar and Goni Mardor—live]

[Text] [Zohar] Good evening, Yosi Ben-Aharon, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office.

[Ben-Aharon] Shalom.

[Zohar] Before we discuss Egypt's 10 points, let us first determine whether the Prime Minister's Office or any staff member has received any form of an Egyptian message, or whether such a document—which details this message and its specifics—has arrived from any other source, whether officially or semi-officially, if not publicly?

[Ben-Sharon] No. As the foreign minister himself asserted, no Israeli office dealing with the issue has received a document with the 10 points. We know that it exists because we received copies of it unofficially and indirectly from a U.S. source. Thus, from the formal and official point of view this document does not exist insofar as we are concerned.

[Zohar] In other words, that U.S. source provided you with a copy of the document outside the framework of an attempt to conduct indirect negotiations?

[Ben-Aharon] No. The Americans did not enter into this issue to conduct indirect negotiations. They know that the issue on the agenda is our political initiative. In that respect, they have told us that they are trying to persuade all the Arab elements to accept it. Only then will negotiations be conducted on its implementation.

[Zohar] Meaning that in fact the content of this document somehow did reach the responsible decision-making elements here in Jerusalem. Perhaps, then, someone is waiting until the moods here can be assessed before it is discussed officially. Would this be a correct way of presenting the facts?

[Ben-Aharon] We know about many things that take place, but this is not to say that we are in any way obligated to address their content. After all, our plan first of all requires acceptance in principle of the approach that involves a representative delegation of the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza that will be asked to address the entire scenario. After all, it is all one thing. After such an agreement is reached, elections will be held and those who will be elected will also serve as the leaders of the autonomy. They will also conduct the negotiations with us on the implementation of the scenario to its end.

[Mardor] Mr Ben-Aharon, why can the 10-point document or at least parts thereof not constitute the basis for the beginning of a dialogue, or negotiations on the negotiations as the vice prime minister called them?

[Ben-Aharon] Because we are not involved in negotiations with Egypt for the simple reason that we actually want to achieve coexistence with the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. It is they, then—whether through their representatives or via any authorized representative, with the exception of the PLO—who should come and tell us that they are prepared to accept this idea, which largely offers them the opportunity to realize their political aspirations of conducting their own affairs. If there are negotiations with a third party on the content of this business of the elections and the related issues, an unnecessary erosion will be felt even before there is anyone, from our standpoint, with whom we can implement the plan.

[Mardor] What if these 10 points are acceptable to the Palestinians?

[Ben-Aharon] If they tell us: We accept the principle and the scenario, although we have some comments, there are some conditions that we want to introduce, or some limitations we must insert—fine. Then we will conduct negotiations. This, after all, is a natural process.

[Zohar] But it is first necessary to hold elections, and a certain section of that document details the election process.

[Ben-Aharon] That is obvious. We have no problem with the elections.

[Zohar] But I think the Palestinians do because, first of all, there is the issue of East Jerusalem, for example, which has already become a major bone of contention. There is also the issue of supervision of the voting process, and the issue of the soldiers' absence from the voting area. There are also other points, such as those regarding a freeze of the settlement drive and others, which are included in the document, which actually constitute the basis for the elections themselves.

[Ben-Aharon] All that is negotiable and up for discussion with the Palestinian Arabs. It is inconceivable that they should present us with preconditions even before there is agreement that the scenario as a whole is accepted.

[Zohar] That is clear. So whom do you regard as representative of that Palestinian element?

[Ben-Aharon] Look, we have addressed this issue many times before.

[Zohar] Precisely, except that the problem is that there is no acceptable representative body. That is why elections will be held.

[Ben-Aharon] No. There are Palestinian Arabs in the territories—as I believe the citizens of Israel know—who enjoy a highly prestigious status, and who are intelligent enough and have both the ability and the authority to speak for those who send them. They do not have to be subordinate to the terrorists in Tunis to do that. There are two reasons, two things that interfere, that explain why they shy away from assuming that role: first, it is the PLO's terror; and, of equal importance, is the ongoing U.S. dialogue with the PLO in Tunis. Consequently, they reach the following inference: As long as this superpower, the United States, is engaged in such a dialogue with the PLO in Tunis, then why should we endanger ourselves and talk to the Government of Israel? Until they become convinced that they can only talk to us, as we are the only ones from whom they can obtain gains that will satisfy their needs and aspirations—even if these are only partially satisfied—it will not be easy to bring about any progress in that process.

[Zohar] Yosi Ben-Aharon, thank you very much.

[Ben-Aharon] Thank you, too, and shalom.

Abu-'Ayyash on Mubarak's Plan

TA1209194189 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 10 Sep 89 p 3

[Interview with Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, head of the Arab journalists association in the occupied territories, by Da'ud Kuttab; date, place not given]

[Text] AL-QUDS: What is your opinion of Egypt's 10 points?

Abu-'Ayyash: The Egyptian 10 points are not an integral settlement plan but might form a beginning for a new peace move that will ultimately lead to producing a dynamic that will add something new to the peace process.

The points introduced in the Egyptian plan are aimed at extricating the peace process from its present stalemate in a bid to launch serious negotiations on ending the occupation and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

AL-QUDS: Are there negative points in the Egyptian plan?

Abu-'Ayyash: The plan contains some negative points because it is not an integral peace plan presented on the basis of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. It is feared that Israel will exploit this non-integral plan in order to gain more time in its attempt to avoid answering difficult questions, such as the right to self-determination, land in return for peace, and PLO representation of the Palestinian people. Although these subjects have been addressed in the 10th point, it is necessary that we, the Palestinian people, try to exploit every positive point in order to employ it in the service of the peace strategy proclaimed by the Palestine National Council [PNC].

AL-QUDS: Is Egypt playing the role of mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict or is it a party to the conflict?

Abu-'Ayyash: I do not accept that Egypt be a mediator, neither on the Arab nor national level, because of its connection to the Palestinian cause. Egypt should be a major party in this conflict. The Egyptian-Israeli settlement derived its legitimacy from Security Council Resolution 242, which was recognized by the Palestinian people represented by the recent PNC. Therefore, if Egypt were to play the role of a neutral mediator, it would be acting against the Egyptian position and the Palestinian position.

AL-QUDS: Are the 10 points a Palestinian plan conveyed by Egypt or are they solely an Egyptian plan?

Abu-'Ayyash: They are an Egyptian plan. The brothers in the PLO leadership might agree on some of its points and some may have reservations about or reject other points.

AL-QUDS: What about the national elements in the occupied land? Is there a consensus on this plan?

Abu-'Ayyash: There is a Palestinian consensus to adhere to a single strategy, namely reaching a comprehensive solution, but since the Palestinian people are democratic there is disagreement over the key to reaching a solution. But definitely if it becomes clear that this plan will lead to a comprehensive solution, the Palestinian consensus will support it.

AL-QUDS: Regarding the Egyptian plan, is the ball in the Palestinian or Israeli court?

Abu-'Ayyash: As far as I know the Egyptian 10 points are first and foremost directed at the Israeli Government, which I believe is divided over them. Some of the Cabinet members have responded positively, others have rejected them, while others are wavering. The Israeli Government is now required to officially respond positively to these points if it seeks a beginning for reaching a solution. As for the Palestinian side, these points will not be presented to it until Egypt receives an Israeli response.

AL-QUDS: Will Rabin's meeting with President Husni Mubarak contribute to giving momentum to this issue?

Abu-'Ayyash: Any Egyptian-Israeli meeting is a concern of the Egyptian Government, but the Egyptians will be interested in such a meeting should there be Israeli agreement on the Egyptian questions. In such a case, it will not be important whether the Egyptian president meets Rabin or Shamir.

Justice Minister Comments

TA1209164289 Tel Aviv Educational Television in Hebrew 1500 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Interview with Justice Minister Dan Meridor in the Jerusalem studio, by Dan Shilon in the Tel Aviv studio—live]

[Text] [Shilon] Good evening, Justice Minister Dan Meridor.

[Meridor] Good evening.

[Shilon] Would it be true if I said that our peace initiative has died?

[Meridor] Absolutely not. You are right, however, in saying that there is an attempt—which I am willing to explain—by parties who dislike our initiative to remove it from the agenda and find substitutes for it. Four months ago, when the Cabinet decided on the Israeli political initiative, a substantial change for the better was made both in terms of odds and in the promotion of the process. The PLO was cornered into a dangerous position. Its condition has deteriorated. They went looking desperately for a ladder with which to get off the tall tree they had climbed. Unfortunately, the Egyptians, with the help of elements outside of Egypt, are building a 10-rung, or 10-point, ladder for them, so that the Israeli initiative will not be the only game in town, as the Americans say. They introduced another initiative. This is not good. We should not be so nervous. A serious country that offers a plan should not retract it and look for substitutes only because the other side has not accepted it yet.

[Shilon] Perhaps we are the ones on this tall tree. Perhaps we climbed it by presenting this initiative, which nobody has accepted so far, in fact. You say that our situation has improved. Is this improvement only in terms of our public relations in the world, rather than on the substance of the issue?

[Meridor] Absolutely not. It is absolutely not just an improvement of our image, but an improvement in substance. I believe it would not be accurate to say that it has not been accepted. First of all this is an initiative that was accepted by the entire Israeli Cabinet, by a large majority. It is an initiative that was endorsed by the U.S. Administration that has said that it adopts the plan. This was the expression: actually adopting it.

[Shilon] But not in its entirety.

[Meridor] This is an initiative that 95 of the 100 U.S. senators, and most members of the House of Representatives endorsed and support. This is an initiative that all the countries seeking to promote the issue, and not just to oppose Israel...

[Shilon, interrupting] Forgive me for interrupting. Eventually, we will probably have to make peace not with the United States or Europe. We will have to deal with the Arab countries, and mainly with the Palestinians, and they have not accepted this initiative.

[Meridor] Look, if we state a precondition that our initiative could be considered good only if the PLO accepts it, we would rather throw in the towel and this would be the end of this story.

[Shilon] The residents of the territories also have not accepted the initiative.

[Meridor] I believe that this is a mistake. Whoever is timing the process and setting a date, saying: If you do not accept it within the next 2 months, I will make you—the residents of the territories—a better offer, should realize that they must be fools to accept it. I believe that this initiative was received with mixed feelings by the Arabs in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza as well. I believe that the Arab countries, including Egypt, have not rejected it. No official rejection has been made, because it is not simple to reject such an offer. Among the Arabs of the territories there is a distinction between the facade and the internal discussion. I believe that recently they were somewhat confused because here, and I regret to say even on the higher levels, people started saying: Maybe the right time has gone; perhaps we should start looking for substitutes; the fact is that it does not work. How do we expect our propositions to be treated seriously if we change them every couple of months? Incidentally, even if we make a new offer now, they will wait several months for us to change it again.

[Shilon] Is it not the nature of all kinds of negotiations, especially political ones, that one party makes a certain suggestion, the other side brings its own initiative, the Egyptians in this case, and this is also a basis for discussions.

[Meridor] Let me make one thing clear first: The Egyptians have so far relayed no proposition to us; not 10 points, not any other number of points. The Americans have not adopted the Egyptian stand either, despite various reports and messages that have reached us from the United States. This is the current situation. We therefore have no alternative proposal, and for a good reason. That is because the Egyptians, too, did not obtain another party's acceptance of their proposal even though they want it. We, however, do not need the concurrence of a third party for our initiative. That is why I suggest that we be a little more stabilized and act with restraint. With all due respect, we are dealing with negotiations here. We have made our offer and we are waiting for a reply. Incidentally, we could be given a negative answer. The Arabs, Egypt, all the others can say: No, we do not accept it. No one has said so.

[Shilon] What do we do then? Will we stick to our positions?

[Meridor] This is a good question. What will we do if our demand concerning Jerusalem is rejected? What if they reject the right of Jews to immigrate to Israel, to which the PLO opposes? This is a fine question indeed. I am

only glad we have not asked this question during the past 50 or 60 years of the Zionist enterprise. We have made an offer. We took our chances. You know what debates had taken place in Israel. They are legitimate because our proposition entails risks for us. We went a long way to allow for the opening of negotiations. We have placed our offer on the table. It is still there. It was widely accepted in the world. It was not absolutely rejected by the Arabs of the territories and certain Arab countries. It is difficult. They are in the midst of an internal debate. The PLO is opposing it vehemently. It is looking for phrases, but it opposes the idea that there will be representatives who will be elected locally, and the notion of not being the sole legitimate representative, as they call it. There is a struggle, which must be allowed to end in such a way that an Arab representation from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza is found. If we change positions and retreat under the impression that we must end this tonight or else the whole world would fall apart, there is no chance for any political plan.

[Shilon] Do you not accept the dynamics of negotiations? Not viewed from the two opposite poles you presented as the differences between the current state of affairs and the right of return which the Palestinians are demanding, but some interim stage of negotiations-dynamics that the Egyptians are now trying to advocate?

[Meridor] I accept, as anyone who understands the ways of life would, that no one ends negotiations the same way he starts them. For negotiations to start, however, one must form a certain agreed framework for them. We have not suggested detailed negotiations. We have offered a framework that, among other things, accepts that people be elected. It states that they are to be elected for a certain process. It is all written there, I will not repeat it now. In this process each party would present its demands in the customary way. Should we alter our opening positions before negotiations start; before we have a partner for them; before there is a willingness of the Arab residents of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip to join negotiations? Can this be taken seriously? How does this look?

[Shilon] Dan Meridor, before we end this interview, I wish to remind you that even the Israeli foreign minister has not rejected our willingness to discuss the Egyptian proposal outright. Do you accept this?

[Meridor] It is acceptable to me that when Egypt presents its proposal, letter, request, or note, the Cabinet would discuss it. This has always been acceptable. What is in no way acceptable, and the foreign minister said the same, is that we change our plans because someone is making a different proposition. We have an offer. It is agreed, good, and acceptable. I do not believe that we can maintain our security and at the same time extend our plan beyond the limits we have reached. It allows free negotiations. If the Arabs accept it we will commence negotiations. They will not be easy; they will be very difficult. Both sides will have to make serious efforts. But, they must be started. A partner is needed to start them. We are not beginning them yet. We want to go with the Arab residents of the territories, Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza to negotiations; it will be difficult but it will have a chance. The Egyptian proposal is meant to do just the opposite. It wants to return the PLO to the negotiations through the back door.

[Shilon] Justice Minister Dan Meridor, thank you for coming to our Jerusalem studio.

Abu-Rahmah on 10-Point Plan

JN1309092889 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Fayiz Abu-Rahmah, chairman of the Gaza Bar Association, today said the Egyptian 10 points could serve as a basis to activate the Middle East peace process. Interviewed by our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem, Abu-Rahmah said notables from the territories will participate in crystallizing the Egyptian plan.

[Begin recording] [Abu-Rahmah] I believe the plan is sufficient to initiate a political move and break the political stalemate to a certain extent. If the Israeli Government accepts it, there will be movement and a step forward.

[Ben-Menahem] Do you think the PLO fully approves of the Egyptian plan?
[Abu-Rahmah] Today I heard in the news that President Yasir 'Arafat has agreed to the 10 points.

[Ben-Menahem] Do you think this will set things in motion?
[Abu-Rahmah] If the Israeli Government agrees to that, I believe there will be some movement.

[Ben-Menahem] What is the difference between the Egyptian 10 points and the Israeli election plan?
[Abu-Rahmah] The Egyptian plan prescribes the principle of land for peace, depends on Security Council Resolution 242 as a basis for any settlement, stipulates an end to the building of settlements, and grants the East Jerusalem Arabs the right to vote in the elections. They do not have this right in the Israeli plan. There are some principles which can facilitate the peace process.

[Ben-Menahem] How do you view the idea of forming a delegation from notables in the territories for talks with Israel on the election procedures?
[Abu-Rahmah] I think that forming a delegation is a measure that will also help activate the process, but the PLO should agree to such a delegation.

[Ben-Menahem] Who among the notables in the territories can join this delegation?
[Abu-Rahmah] There are many who can be members of this delegation. Excuse me for not giving names.

[Ben-Menahem] There are Palestinian notables from the territories in Cairo. What is their role in the peace process?

[Abu-Rahmah] These notables want to inquire about the Egyptian 10 points and will hold talks with the Egyptians. You can ask them about their other tasks.

[Ben-Menahem] Can any importance be attached to the role played by these Palestinian notables?

[Abu-Rahmah] I think they have political importance. They are participating in public work, in opinion, and in movement.

[Ben-Menahem] In your capacity as chairman of the Bar Association, what do you think of the recent killings in the territories?

[Abu-Rahmah] I believe these acts should be ended; they should not continue. None is entitled to appoint himself a judge and order the killing of a person. The Unified Leadership leaflets, too, called for not attacking individuals. We hope that such acts will be completely halted and that no one would resort to them. [end recording]

Editorial on Peace Proposal

TA1209204189 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 12 Sep 89 pp 1, 7

[Editorial: "The Egyptian Move"]

[Text] The Egyptian move toward a peaceful settlement in the region—based on the "10 points" initiative—apart from representing a clear and explicit expression of the Arab desire to emerge from the impasse and deadlock that pervades the peace process in the region, to which it has been plunged by Israeli obstinacy and maneuvering as well as U.S. complicity, indicates without the slightest doubt that it is "Shamir's plan" that constitutes an impediment to peace in the region and that the time has come for the Israelis themselves to admit this fact.

With the exception of the American stance, the Israeli plan failed to draw any kind of Palestinian, Arab, or international support since it does not take the facts into account and addresses the same subjects that have been rejected on the Palestinian, Arab, and even international level. The world, which has defined the requirements of international peace, does not see any response to these requirements in "Shamir's plan," but perceives that response in the PLO's proclamation of a clearly outlined peace strategy through which the PLO recognized Resolutions 242 and 338. The response to these resolutions is regarded as a response to the requirements of peace.

While Washington talks about the positive aspects of the Egyptian "10 points" and affirms its support for them in principle—considering them as being suitable for launching the peace process—Shamir, Rabin, Arens, and Milo are vying with each other in raising doubts about this initiative and are reiterating their positions which reject any initiative that might extricate the peace process from the deadlock.

Thus, Israeli skepticism over the positiveness of the Egyptian initiative means that Israel's leaders are predetermined to thwart this initiative or any Arab or international move that aims to "budge" things and advance the peace process. The international community cannot remain idle in the face of this situation, because this community should not tolerate that the concepts of peace in the region be mortgaged to the ideas of Israel's leaders—these ideas that constitute an obstacle on the road to peace in the region.

USSR's Aytmatov Urges Resumption of Ties

TA1009174189 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1730 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Chingiz Aytmatov, a member of the Supreme Soviet who is currently visiting Israel, says that relations between Israel and the Soviet Union must be resumed without preconditions. Aytmatov, a famous Soviet author who is closely associated with Gorbachev, said that a balance must be maintained between the interests of all the sides in the Middle East in order to resolve regional problems, including the Palestinian problem. This was reported by our correspondent Mikha'el Birenhack.

Meets With Arens

TA1109124989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] The Kenyan minister for reclamation and development of arid and semi-arid wasteland met with Foreign Minister Arens and the Foreign Ministry director general this morning. They convened to hammer out the details of the cooperation agreement between the two countries.

Minister Arens also met in Jerusalem with Chingiz Aytmatov, the author and Gorbachev confidant, who is also a member of the Supreme Soviet, and told him that continuous contacts and an exchange of information between Israel and the Soviet Union would help further understanding between the two countries despite political disagreements. Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen points out that the visitor expressed his agreement with this statement.

Polish President Criticizes Shamir's Remarks

TA1209095789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Sep 89 p 1

[Report by Menahem Shalev]

[Text] Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski yesterday criticised Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir for saying that Poles "suck in anti-Semitism with their mother's milk."

Jaruzelski's spokesman, Wlodzimierz Lozinski, told a news conference in Warsaw yesterday that Shamir's remarks "contradict the long tradition of Polish-Jewish co-existence in Poland."

He said that Shamir's words "added a political, social, and economic aspect" to the controversy surrounding the Carmelite convent at Auschwitz.

Shamir's remarks in the Friday JERUSALEM POST also touched off vehement protests in the American-Polish community, which strongly protested to the Israeli Consulate-General in Chicago, Foreign Ministry officials said last night.

Responding to a question about the continued existence of anti-Semitism in Poland today, Shamir told THE POST: "They suck it in with their mother's milk. This is something that is deeply imbued in their tradition, their mentality. Like their loathing of Russia. The two things are not connected of course. But that too is something very deep, like their hatred of 'Am Yisrael [the people of Israel]. Today, though, there are elements in Poland that are cleansed of anti-Semitism."

Shamir's bureau chief, Yosef Ahime'ir, said last night in reaction to the Polish criticism that Shamir "distinguishes very well between events of the past and what is relevant for relations with the Polish people in the present and future."

Although Shamir does not retract his words to THE POST, Ahime'ir said, "He would very much like to develop warm ties and full diplomatic contacts with the Polish people and Government." Ahime'ir cited Shamir's recent warm congratulations to newly appointed Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, as well as an earlier message to Jaruzelski himself.

"In the final analysis," Ahime'ir said, "you cannot expect someone who narrowly escaped being a victim, and whose father escaped from the Nazis only to be murdered by his fellow Poles, to forget about Polish anit-Semitism."

Palestinians Seek Permission To Discuss Elections

TA1009092089 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 10 Sep 89 p 7

[Report by Oren Kohen]

[Text] Noting that the political deadlock has led to a wave of violence, Palestinian leaders in the territories are calling on the PLO to allow them to hold negotiations with Israel on elections in the territories. Senior Palestinian sources said on Friday that these leaders intend to approach the PLO via Egypt and ask it to end the deadlock in contacts concerning the elections, in which Palestinian representatives to the peace talks would be elected.

The sources added that these Palestinian leaders, including Faysal al-Husayni and Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, would shortly travel to Cairo to that end. Al-Husayni is currently in Europe, Abu-'Ayyash is due to leave Israel soon, and attorney Fayiz Abu-Rahmah from Gaza is scheduled to depart for Egypt this week. According to the latter, he will be going to Egypt with a group of education officials to settle issues concerning students from the Gaza Strip.

A Palestinian leader in the territories believes that in Egypt the Palestinian leaders would try to check out Mubarak's 10-point plan and would even try to include new ideas in it in a bid to solve the political deadlock. Among other things, they may ask for permission to hold contacts on their own with Israeli officials. "Nothing is budging, and something must be done to enable a breakthrough," a senior Palestinian told HADASHOT last night.

In contrast, another assessment in the territories is that nothing will budge until 'Arafat goes to the United Nations in New York in 1 and ½ months. The same Palestinian figure cautioned yesterday that one cannot wait 1 and ½ months under the current situation, seeing the mounting violence and despair in the territories. The Palestinian leadership is worried about the uncontrolled rise in the level of violence in the territories as the uprising enters its 21st month. Some leaders are anxious about the indiscriminate killing of suspected traitors which might lead to an escalation and fratricide.

A Palestinian source added that another delegation made up of five leaders from the territories will go to Cairo in October to exert additional pressure on the PLO on this issue.

[In a report on pages A1 and A2 by Avino'am Bar-Yosef, news agencies, and Washington correspondent Ran Dagoni, Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 10 September notes: "PLO leaders have ordered leading Palestinian figures in the territories known to be PLO supporters not to conduct independent negotiations with Egypt to promote President Mubarak's 10-point plan. This message was relayed to the territories in the wake of attempts made in the last few days by senior Palestinians to encourage the Egyptian president in his efforts to persuade 'Arafat to appoint a pro-PLO delegation which would not include Palestinians from outside the territories, to launch negotiations with Israel with a view to the autonomous elections." The report notes that in the wake of the PLO's appeal the Palestinian leaders "decided to reconsider their trip to Cairo," and that Faysal al-Husayni announced from Europe that he would not be going to Cairo and would be returning to Jerusalem "at the beginning of this week."]

Increased Syrian Activity in Lebanon Noted

TA1009124489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Chief of Staff Dan Shomron today said that there has been a noticeable increase in Syrian activity in Lebanon lately, as a result of their battle with General Michel 'Awn. Israel is keenly monitoring this activity and will not allow any of its vital interests to be compromised.

Labor Party Deputy Denies Spy Swap Involvement

AU1109113589 Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 8 Sep 89 p 6

["Pool" report: "Eliav: Not Involved in Exchange of Agents"]

[Text] Jerusalem—On Thursday [7 September] Lova Eliav, deputy of the Israeli Labor Party, who was mentioned by DIE WELT in connection with a possible "super spy swap" between nine states and the Soviet Union, assured SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG that he was wrongly involved in the affair by DIE WELT. When a DIE WELT journalist asked him about "Vogel in Israel," he told him the truth—namely that he had not seen Vogel, meaning his Socialist Party colleague Vogel, in Israel for a long time. "We had a real misunderstanding and I am afraid DIE WELT did not take me seriously," Eliav said. "Concerning lawyer Wolfgang Vogel, unfortunately, I cannot say anything from my own experience." Eliav admitted that between 1982 and 1986 he was involved in negotiations on the exchange of prisoners, but as a parliamentarian, he no longer plays any role in things like this. Whether he knows Israelis who could provide information about the deal? Eliav: "If in the past someone had asked me about details before the completion of an exchange, I would not have answered. You will not get any information from anyone in Israel at the moment."

El Al Plans Charter Flight to Soviet Georgia

TA1009104989 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 10 Sep 89 p 3

[Report from Tbilisi by Menahem Shezaf]

[Text] The chairman of the Soviet Georgian Tourism Chamber announced last night that El Al would fly the first charter flight from Ben-Gurion Airport to the capital of Tbilisi in 2 months.

The Georgian Republic and Israel will establish a joint company which will run regular flights between the two countries. The chairman announced that Georgia wants to invite Israeli tourism officials to develop the tourism business in Georgia and, in exchange, the local tourism chamber would host Israeli groups of 150 people each every month.

These remarks were made in a festive dinner given in honor of the Israeli delegation headed by Knesset Member Efrayim Gur currently visiting Georgia. The host was Tsartali Zurab [name as published], one of the greatest artists of the Soviet Union.

Commander Describes Changes in Army Training

TA1209175489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Reservists serving in the Ground Forces Command will undergo training at a level almost equivalent to the one that prevailed prior to the uprising, said Major General Uri Sagi, the commander of the Ground Forces Command, today. Our military correspondent 'Amos Har'el heard him:

[Begin recording] [Har'el] The burden presented by the uprising in the territories on routine security missions notwithstanding, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has managed to achieve its goals insofar as its training plans are concerned, said Gen Sagi. Reserve training this year will be on a far larger scale than in the past few years, while regular servicemen's training programs are conducted according to the original plans. The reservists, said the commander of the Ground Forces, have more or less resumed the 1987 level of training, namely the level that prevailed before the outbreak of the intifadah [uprising].

[Sagi] Two central components have hardly been affected. They are commander training programs, including courses, which are maintained almost at the same level as before; and the reserve force which is encumbered with a heavy onus in terms of length of duty. The fighting units from the reserve corps—which is to say all the combat and assault units—have undergone regular training this year. So far this program has not been affected, and, furthermore, has maintained a good standard.

[Har'el] The IDF has simultaneously been setting up standing army companies specifically for territory missions. To date several such companies have been set up in the Armored Infantry Corps affiliated with the Armored Corps. They spend their combat duty, or approximately 8 months a year, in the territories. They train together with the Armored Corps men.

This year several more such companies will be established. Some of them will be directed to the Armored Corps, while the others will be transferred to the Artillery Corps and the Engineering Corps.

Several months ago the Ground Forces Command also introduced changes into the infantry training programs. Thus, as part of the new program, the infantry personnel also undergo a 3-month advanced training course in the squad commander school after basic training. As a result, says Gen Sagi, these troops come better prepared and are more professionally experienced when they enter the operational chapter of their duty in the companies deployed along the northern border and in the territories.

[Sagi] Needless to say, insofar as the operational capability is concerned, substantial improvement has been noted. This has been corroborated by all the brigade and battalion commanders, including the skeptics. Some of these battalions have already eliminated terrorists along the Lebanese border.

[Har'el] The above was stated in a meeting with army correspondents on the occasion of Ground Forces Day. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1700 GMT carries a report on Gen Sagi's remarks, adding that "Gen Sagi also disclosed that the IDF will soon begin introducing into combat operation a new sniper rifle. Many types of such rifles have been scanned, but it turned out that the rifle that has been selected stands up to the professional requirements."]

Bethlehem Communique on Meeting Administration

TA1209114589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] The Bethlehem dignitaries who met with Brigadier General Shay Erez, the head of the Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria, have issued a communique stating that they had no idea that they were to meet with the head of the Civil Administration, as they were told that the meeting was with the governor of Bethlehem. This was reported by our correspondent Arye Gus.

The notables emphasized that during the meeting they stressed that the PLO is the only representative of the Palestinian people and that it alone is authorized to speak for them.

Gaza Port Opens; 2d Khan Yunus Port Planned

TA1209122689 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 12 Sep 89 p 2

[Report from the south by Dani Tzidqoni]

[Excerpt] Hundreds of fishermen participated in yesterday's inauguration of a new fishing port, which was built between the two piers that had previously served as the city's port. That port had been in use for a few years, up until the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

The new port will serve as the marina for 500 boats from the northern part of the Gaza Strip. Brigadier General Arye Ramot, the head of the Civil Administration in the Gaza Strip, announced during yesterday's ceremony that a second fishing port will be built in Khan Yunus soon. That one will serve the 300 vessels and fishing boats that the fishermen from the southern part of the Gaza Strip run. The port forms part of a larger fishing complex, which includes a fish market to the north, an ice factory, and the office of the fishermen's union which was established through UN funding prior to the outbreak of the intifadah [uprising].

The Civil Administration invested more than 2 million shekels in the new fishing port. [passage omitted]

Abu-Rahmah Condemns Killings in Territories

TA1109133089 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 11 Sep 89 p 2

[Interview with Fayiz Abu-Rahmah, chairman of the Gaza Bar Association, by Yerah Tal; date, place not given]

[Text] [Tal] Some residents of the territories have condemned the latest spate of assassinations, although they expressed understanding for the murderers' motives. Do you, too, perceive a dichotomy of sentiments toward these killings?

[Abu-Rahmah] I totally condemn any case in which an individual takes the law into his own hands. Likewise, I condemn punishment without trial. I believe this is the opinion of most of the inhabitants of the occupied territories, who condemn these deeds with revulsion. These are acts perpetrated by individuals who commit the crimes on their own.

[Tal] What do you think are the criteria for identifying a collaborator with the authorities in the territories?

[Abu-Rahmah] I do not think there are any such criteria; certainly no legal criteria. Everything is based on hearsay and dubious facts. Someone spreading a rumor on the street is enough to put the targeted man's life in jeopardy. The "condemned" man never even has a chance to defend himself.

[Tal] Could it be that some of the murders in fact happened as part of personal account-settling campaigns but were disguised as "political?"

[Abu-Rahmah] It is certainly possible that some of these assassinations were committed under those circumstances. To get rid of someone or make him pay for something against the background of a personal conflict, one need only hint that he is collaborating with the authorities. By this the killers hope to legitimize the murder.

Yet a murder is a murder, even if packaged in a nationalist-patriotic wrapping. It is still unforgivable. Any man, be he the most despicable and loathsome criminal, deserves to be given a fair trial. He must be allowed to defend himself, particularly when the "penalty" he can expect is death.

[Tal] Can these assassinations not be regarded as part of the intifadah [uprising]? Do the assassins not receive their instructions directly from the uprising command?

[Abu-Rahmah] Definitely not. The intifadah command has furthermore come out against these acts. In its leaflets, the uprising command urged leaving the struggle to the command itself. Independent operations merely harm the organized struggle in the territories and will not help promote our causes. On the contrary, they can sabotage them.

[Tal] As a lawyer, do you favor setting up a judicial tribunal in the territories to try the collaborators?

[Abu-Rahmah] Before anyone is punished he should be warned in writing and verbally. I am convinced that if these people are forewarned that they are suspected of being collaborators, then to the extent that they really are collaborators they will avoid such deeds afterward. This warning can be issued by the command of the uprising.

The assassins who are caught must be penalized with the utmost severity. Since they will be tried by an Israeli court, the maximum penalty they are liable to receive is a life sentence.

I believe that a condemnation of the assassinations by the majority of the population in the territories, plus the campaign that has been launched by the command of the uprising against the activities of individuals outside the general framework, will achieve results. Consequently the incidence of these murders will subside to the minimum, if they are not eliminated altogether.

[Tal] Have the assassinations created a sense of insecurity among the population? I have heard that public figures in the territories employ bodyguards all the time. Do you feel secure?

[Abu-Rahmah] We are in the midst of a difficult period, even without these murders. Crises breed abnormal phenomena, which the locals must learn to live with. Nor do I sense panic in the air. I myself feel secure, and certainly do not have bodyguards. I have no reason to have them.

Shomron Bans Use of Force as Penal Measure

TA1209191589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] A letter from the chief of staff has been disseminated recently among the soldiers serving in the territories. It includes instructions on how to operate there. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the message says that the use of force is meant to help carry out missions, but force should not be used as a penal measure. The chief of staff emphasized that instructions on opening fire must be carefully adhered to, as must regulations governing the employment of the various means at the soldiers' disposal. The chief of staff forbade the soldiers to take any measure that smacks of harassment, humiliation, or a deliberate attempt to damage property.

Our correspondent points out that the message was formulated at the behest of various elements in the judicial system in light of the trial of the Giv'ati Brigade soldiers who were accused of harassment.

No Magnetic Cards for West Bank Residents

TA1209112489 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 12 Sep 89 p 2

[Report by Roni Shaqed]

[Text] The identity cards of West Bank residents will be replaced by new cards, different in shape and color from the ones currently in use.

The replacement of the identity cards is meant to enhance the power of the authorities in the territories.

The new cards will be of various colors, according to the districts in the West Bank, and will enable better supervision over the movement of people between the districts. In fact, the new identity cards will be tantamount to permits to remain in Israel, because those with a criminal or security record who will not be allowed to cross into Israel will be issued cards of a unique color and markings.

West Bank residents will be asked to report to the Civil Administration offices in their place of residence to receive the new identity card personally.

In recent deliberations it was decided not to introduce in the West Bank the magnetic cards enforced in the Gaza Strip, mainly because of the difficulties involved in controlling the numerous entry and exit points between Israel and the West Bank.

Nevertheless, a senior police officer said that now that the "magnetic card operation" has been completed in the Gaza Strip, the defense establishment is working on a similar project in Judaea and Samaria.

The distribution of the cards will be done gradually, according to districts. Distribution will begin shortly in the Janin District.

2 Arabs Sentenced for Trying To Attack Army Camp

TA1109191489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] The Lod military court has jailed two young Arabs to 30 years for trying to attack an Army camp in the Gaza Strip in March. 'Iyyad Mustafa Abu-Hasna, who is 16, and 'Aynan Hasan Yunus, 18, were convicted of crossing the Egyptian border into Israel with the aim of attacking an Army base near the Rafah refugee camp.

Arab Working for Army Held as Uprising Activist

TA1309054889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] Security forces arrested a Gaza Strip Arab who served as a de facto director of a workshop run by the Army. The suspect is accused of being a member of a popular committee that directs the uprising. Military

sources said although many Arabs are employed in these workshops, everyone of them undergoes an intensive backround investigation.

Arab Woman Sentenced for Killing Student

TA1209124089 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] A 10-year prison term was handed down by the Jerusalem court to an Arab woman from Jerusalem who was found guilty of killing Yeshiva student Eli'ezer Schlesinger more than a year ago. The incident occurred in Sacker Park in Jerusalem. The woman was found guilty of manslaughter, not murder, because two of the three judges were satisfied that she had no intention of murdering the Yeshiva student. The above was reported by our correspondent Mikha'el Birenhack.

3 Wounded in Territories Amid General Strike

TA0909192989 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] There was a general strike in the territories today to mark the 21st month since the outbreak of the intifadah [uprising]. There were clashes between soldiers and locals in several locations.

Two were wounded at the 'Askar refugee camp near Nabulus in a clash with soldiers. In Nabulus and the adjacent refugee camps, the curfew is now in its 8th day. Fa'iz Mahmud Abu-Shuwayqi, 35, was seriously wounded at the Rafah refugee camp. He was transferred to Tel Hashomer Hospital.

Masked Criminals 'Terrorizing' Residents

TA1009100289 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 10 Sep 89 p 6

[Report by Mikhal Qedem]

[Text] The police in Gaza suspect that criminal elements in the Gaza Strip are taking advantage of the phenomenon of masked men to settle private or criminal scores. They suspect drug dealers, pimps, and other felons posing as masked men of terrorizing locals to get their way.

The police believe that masked men who recently robbed post offices and shops "in the name of the intifadah" [uprising] were not intifadah activists at all, but ordinary criminals.

The phenomenon of masked men is worsening in the Gaza Strip. There have recently been reports on dozens of violent incidents in which masked men, usually members of the strike committees, were involved.

Meanwhile, an internal division has emerged among the masked men. Locals who cover their heads with black and white kaffiyehs are usually identified with Fatah's strike committees, while those donning red and white kaffiyehs to cover their faces belong to Ahmad Jibril's group or more radical organizations.

Masked men wearing black stretch balaclava caps, with slits for the eyes and mouth and a miniature PLO flag sown on the forehead, apparently belong to radical religious organizations such as Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement]. Apparently, these balaclava caps are worn by high-ranking commanders, whereas the "rank and file" wear kaffiyehs.

The police in Gaza have recently arrested a local man who was wearing a black T-shirt sporting a PLO flag on the front and a man wearing a kaffiyeh on the back. The colorful designs are apparently heat transfers which can be found in many shops. The police are now trying to locate the place where these heat transfers were produced.

Palestinian Admits To Stabbing Bus Driver

TA1009054789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpt] The driver of a 405 Tel Aviv-Jerusalem Egged bus is being treated for light wounds this morning at Jerusalem's Sha'arey Tzedeq Hospital after being stabbed by a Palestinian while driving the bus last night. The assailant, a resident of the territories, is also being treated after passengers who dragged him away from the driver beat him. [passage omitted]

Admits To Killing Jew

TA1009185589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] The terrorist who last night tried to attack a bus driver on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem road admitted under interrogation that 3 days ago he murdered a Jew who worked with him at a Tel Aviv building site.

Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that the terrorist led the interrogators of the Shin Bet and the Minorities' Division of the Jerusalem Police Department to a building site on the Tel Aviv seashore promenade where the body of a 38-year-old father of four, who recently lived in Petah Tiqva, was found.

The terrorist said he murdered the man with heavy blows to the head. The murdered man's family is now being notified.

The terrorist is a 26-year-old resident of Ramallah who recently lived and worked in Tel Aviv. He was transferred today from the hospital to the Jerusalem Police detention facility.

Prisoner Attempts Escape; Bomb in Khan Yunus

TA1009114489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] An Arab prisoner attempted to escape from the detention center in Tulkarm this

morning. The guards shot and slightly wounded him. He was immediately taken into custody.

There are curfews in effect in the Gaza Strip this morning, and according to official estimates residents set out for work in Israel in normal numbers.

A firebomb was thrown at an Army vehicle in Khan Yunus. No one was hurt and no damage was caused. The market in Khan Yunus was subsequently ordered to close.

'Terrorists' in Har Dov Incident Intercepted

TA1109123689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] It is now clear that the terrorist squad intercepted by the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] 2 days ago on Har Dov was made up of four members, three of whom managed to escape. Southern Lebanese sources told our correspondent Shulamit Schmerling that the terrorists apparently knew the area well and may even have lived there previously. They were members of a small, but efficient communist organization called the Lebanese National Resistance Front. This organization is basically pro-Syrian, and most of its members are Lebanese. The operation on Har Dov was named after the woman who tried to assassinate General Lahd.

Body in Qaddum Said Victim of 10 Sep Clash

TA1109143089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] The body of 28-year-old Zuhayr 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd was found this morning hidden under some olive trees in the village of Qaddum. Local villagers say the man was killed in last night's clash with an Israeli Army unit which operated in the village. The body was buried by the villagers. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the Army is investigating the report.

A strike was staged today in Tulkarm in the wake of yesterday's events in which four inhabitants were killed in Judaea and Samaria and two were killed in the Gaza Strip.

'Terrorist' Killed in South Lebanon Clash

TA1109151989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Three Israeli Army soldiers were slightly wounded in a clash with a terrorist squad near Kafr Killa in south Lebanon, not far from the border fence. One terrorist was captured, and the body of another terrorist was found in subsequent searches in the direction of Dayr Mimas, north of the site of the clash. [passage omitted]

1 Wounded in Gaza Strip; Another Body Found

TA1109154589 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Report by correspondent in the south Roni Sofer]

[Text] Some 181 Arabs have been shot dead and 2,665 have been wounded by Israeli Army soldiers in the Gaza Strip in the 21 months of the uprising. These are official data supplied today by the Army, summing up 21 months of the uprising in the Gaza Strip.

As for today's events there, a masked Arab was shot and seriously wounded in Khan Yunus at noon today while being chased by soldiers. The man was transferred to Barzilay Hospital in Ashqelon. A debriefing shows that the soldiers followed standing procedures in their arrest of the suspect, and opened fire at him only when he refused to stop.

The body of 27-year-old Rif'at Mahmud 'Abd-Hasnin from Gaza was found this morning in an orange grove in the city's Tuffah neighborhood. His brother said Rif'at had been missing for 4 days. Police suspect he was killed to settle some score whose background remains unclear.

Update on Incidents in Territories 11, 12 Sep

TA1209112789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Sep 89 p 12

[Report by Mikhal Sela']

[Excerpts] Twenty-three Palestinians were shot and wounded yesterday in clashes with troops in the territories. [passage omitted]

In yesterday's clashes in the West Bank, troops shot and wounded two Palestinians in Tammun, north of Nablus, three in Hebron, one in al-Duhayshah and one in Bayt Jala.

In Khan Yunus, troops shot and wounded two masked men, according to Palestinian sources. One of them, Jihad Hamad Salama, 18, was hospitalized by the military authorities in Ashqelon's Barzilay Hospital. The second was arrested. The incident sparked clashes in the town during which six Palestinians were shot and wounded, according to hospital records.

In other clashes in the Gaza Strip, eight Palestinians were shot and wounded.

Eighty-year-old Aysha Abu-Shubayk of Jabalyah sustained fractures in various parts of his body after being beaten; nine-year-old Mahmud Abu-Ghaban of al-Shati suffered a concussion as a result of beatings, according to al-Shifa Hospital sources.

Meanwhile, the 'Aynan Jamus and 'Ammar Qalbuna families of Nablus, whose sons were killed during an army operation 10 days ago, were allowed yesterday to see the bodies in the Abu Kabir Forensic institute.

Majdi Jamus told reporters that the military authorities gave each family two permits to Abu Kabir, where the bodies could be seen through a window. The faces were burnt, but the bodies were whole, according to Jamus.

The families were asked to see the bodies after rumours spread in Nabulus that their organs had been used for transplants in Israeli hospitals. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew on 12 September in a page 2 report by Roni Shaqed, Hayim Broida, and David Regev adds that "two residents of the Jabalyah refugee camp were arrested yesterday in accordance with a 1-year administrative detention decree" and that "Attorney Khalid al-Qidrah, the deputy chairman of the Gaza Bar Association, was arrested by the security forces last night."

Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 12 September in a pool report on page 15 states that "a 10-year prison term, of which 3 years are a suspended sentence, was imposed on Musa Yahya, from the village of Mashah in Samaria. Yahya was convicted of throwing a stone at a Subaru car and injuring a child."

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 12 September in a page 1 report by Eytan Rabin reports that "Yig'al Fales, a soldier from Moshav Zeru'a serving in the Central Command, was convicted of throwing stones at Arab cars on the road leading to and from Gaza. Yehoshu'a Pilpel, the Beersheba Mnicipal Court judge, sentenced him to a 6-month prison sentence, with an additional 12-month suspended sentence. Four of the 6 months he was to have served were converted to community service at Soroka Hospital in Beersheba."

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0900 GMT on 12 September reports that "Muhammad Shadid, a Tulkarm lawyer, was released yesterday evening after a 6-month administrative detention period. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that Attorney Shadid is one of the most prominent Arab lawyers representing security prisoners."]

Palestine Bank Branch Reopens in Khan Yunus

TA1209154889 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 11 Sep 89 p 2

[Text] Gaza—Through the agreement of the Israeli military authorities and Israel's Central Bank, the Palestine Bank branch was opened in Khan Yunus yesterday after a 22-year closure. The bank began receiving customers and opening accounts and credits for them.

Over the past year the Palestine Bank has been the only bank operating in the Gaza Strip.

In another development, preparations are being made to open a bank branch in the Jabalyah District after permission was obtained from the Israeli authorities.

Trade Deficit Continues To Decline in Aug

TA1009142989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Israel's trade deficit continued to decline in August. Our correspondent Menahem Friedman reports that the trade deficit in July and August dropped by 36 percent compared to the previous 2 months. Exports jumped by 6 percent while imports declined by 4 percent. The average monthly trade deficit since the start of the year has been $208 million, which is 14 percent lower than in the second half of 1988. In the first 8 months of 1989, Israel's trade deficit was $1.6 billion, which is 18 percent lower than the same period last year, following a 6 percent rise in exports and stability in the level of imports.

Tourism Up 3.5 Percent in 1st 8 Months of 1989

TA1109133489 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 Sep 89 p 5

[Report by Judy Maltz]

[Text] The number of tourists arriving in Israel in the first eight months of the year rose 3.5 percent to 800,000 compared with the same period last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics said yesterday.

But arrivals were down 10 percent from the same period in 1987, which was a record year for tourism.

In seasonally-adjusted terms, the average number of monthly arrivals by air in July and August was about 10 percent lower than in May and June.

The bureau said 102,000 tourists arrived in Israel in August, 13 percent more than in August 1988, but 12 percent less than in August 1987. Last month's figure includes 85,700 arrivals by air, 2,900 by sea and 13,500 by land. The latter figure includes 3,600 arrivals from Jordan, 5,300 from Lebanon and 4,600 from Egypt.

Another 6,700 arrivals, not included in the total number of tourist arrivals, crossed the border into Israel at Tabah following a visit to Sinai, and 20,000 more were registered as passengers on ships and cruise-liners stopping at Israel's ports. The number of arrivals included in each of these categories was about double the level in the year-earlier period.

Unemployment Increases 3.4 Percent in Aug

TA1209095989 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Sep 89 p 8

[Report by Jeff Black]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The number of jobseekers rose 3.4 percent last month compared to July, with 87,500 people registering with the Employment Service. (In seasonally-adjusted terms, the rate of the increase is

slightly lower, at 2.9 percent.) In 22 towns and settlements around the country last month, the unemployment rate was higher than 9 percent, with Kefar Yona and Netivot registering an unemployment rate of 23.8 percent and 22.3 percent respectively.

Out of the 87,500 jobseekers, 46,300 received the Employment Service's authorization to claim unemployment benefits, a 10 percent rise over the previous month's figure. [passage omitted]

Due to seasonal factors, mainly the increased availability of agricultural work, the Employment Service had 8.6 percent more jobs on offer last month, 19,800 posts, compared with July. The service noted that more of these jobs were filled by Israelis. (77.3 percent compared with 74.5 percent in July in seasonally-adjusted terms.) The number of jobs offered to Palestinian workers from the territories in August fell to 783 posts from 816 in July and 1,862 a year ago. The number of Palestinian workers legally employed in Israel is continuing to fall, with only 32,900 registered with the Employment Service. [passage omitted]

350 'Nationalistic' Crimes in North in 1989

TA0909095589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] During the first 9 months of 1989, some 350 crimes with a nationalistic background were registered in the north of Israel. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that most of these incidents occurred in the Galilee and the Valleys Districts. Among other things, there were 60 incidents of throwing stones at cars, and some 70 arsons in forests.

Police officers in the north have noted that the number of forest fires was lower this year, probably due to the operations of a special police unit formed to fight this phenomenon.

Correction to Draft List of Palestinian Delegation

TA1209131389

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Draft List of Palestinian Delegation Reported," published in the 12 September, Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 30: page 30, column two, third paragraph, first sentence, make read: ...Faysal al-Husayni, Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, Hanna Sinyurah, Ilyas... (correcting name)

Prince Says Amman Agrees With Egypt's 10 Points

JN1209182689 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Huda Tawfiq dispatch from Washington]

[Excerpt] Jordan's Crown Prince Hasan has announced that Jordan agrees on the 10 points presented by Egypt. He also says that any step in this stage must be linked—first and last—to a withdrawal from the occupied territory and a comprehensive settlement. Prince Hasan asks: Are the elections really a part of the view calling for an international conference, withdrawal, and the implementation of UN resolutions, or are they not? He said: If the answer to this question is clear, the issue of Egypt's 10 points will become a facilitating, positive mechanism for this purpose. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Meets Syrian Transport Minister

JN1209082389 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 12 Sep 89 p 3

[Excerpt] Amman (PETRA, J.T.)—General matters related to Jordanian-Syrian Cooperation in land and maritime transport came under review here Monday at a meeting between Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir and the visiting Syrian Minister of Transport Yusuf al-Ahmad.

Al-Ahmad briefed the prime minister, in the presence of Minister of Transport and Telecommunication Hikmat al-Khammash, on the outcome of the talks held here over the past few days to promote Jordanian-Syrian land, maritime and air transport through joint companies.

Al-Ahmad and Al-Khammash had cochaired meetings by the general assemblies of the Land Transport and Maritime Transport Companies to discuss reports about operations in the past year and future plans.

The prime minister asked that the Syrian minister convey his greetings to Syrian Premier Mahmud al-Zu'bi. [passage omitted]

Syrian Minister Leaves Amman

JN1209120089 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] The Syrian Minister of Transport Yusuf al-Ahmad left Amman today via al-Ramtha at the conclusion of his 4-day official visit to Jordan. During his stay in the Kingdom, the Syrian minister held talks with his Jordanian counterpart, Mr Kikmat al-Khammash, and with a number of senior officials. The minister praised the positive results of his visit and expressed hope that the Hijaz Railway line will resume its trips between Amman and damascus.

PDRY Leader Concludes 3-Day Visit to Amman

JN1209111489 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 12 Sep 89 pp 1, 13

[By Faysal al-Shubul]

[Excerpts] Amman—His Excellency Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Council in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY], has said the Palestinian people's intifadah [uprising], the Lebanese question, the state of no peace no war between Iraq and Iran, and the brotherly ties between Jordan and the PDRY were the focus of his talks with His Majesty King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials over the past 2 days.

At a news conference held after the conclusion of a 3-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of His Majesty King Husayn, President al-'Attas added that their views were identical on the various issues discussed. [passage omitted]

Answering a question on Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's proposals concerning a settlement, President al-'Attas said: We support any effort that calls on all parties to negotiate on equal terms to find a just solution to the Palestine question. [passage omitted]

In reply to a question on the possibility of holding another emergency Arab summit on Lebanon and whether this subject was discussed with His Majesty King Husayn, President al-'Attas said: We must give the tripartite committee the opportunity to exert efforts before seeking to convene an Arab summit. [passage omitted]

Answering another question, the Yemeni president affirmed that his talks with His Majesty King Husayn did not touch upon the PDRY joining the Arab Cooperation Council. However, he affirmed: We support any joint Arab action which contributes to the overall joint Arab action. [passage omitted]

Concerning the unity endeavors between the two parts of Yemen, President al-'Attas said: Relations with North Yemen are good and are continuously progressing. We are working hand in hand to regain the unity of our people through a series of integration measures and steps intended to achieve social cohesion. The agreements that were signed between the two countries to set up a joint company to search for oil in the border areas are aimed at building an edifice of unity between the two sides.

On relations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, President al-'Attas said: They are good and we hope to achieve further progress in this regard.

Concerning the oil discoveries in the border areas between both parts of Yemen, President al-'Attas said: They are promising. However, we have been unable to identify oil reserves even though preliminary indications showed oil reserves were good. Moreover, oilwells were discovered in adjacent areas in North and South Yemen.

President al-'Attas added: A joint holding company has been established between the two parts of Yemen. This Yemeni company is charged with making contacts with foreign companies that are willing to undertake investment operations. Indeed, some 45 world companies have submitted applications in this regard—evidence that huge quantities of oil are present. The holding company has reached agreement with five companies working as a consortium. The five companies are headed by an Arab Kuwaiti company with a 25 percent share. The consortium also includes a Soviet company, two U.S. companies, and a French company, each with a 18.75 percent share.

President al-'Attas said it is hoped that this unique cooperation will constitute a significant contribution by the PDRY to reinforce international detente.

Jardanah Outlines Debt Rescheduling Agreement

JN1209091589 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 12 Sept 89 p 1

[By Ghadir al-Tahir, JORDAN TIMES staff writer]

[Text] Amman—Jordan and its main commercial bank creditors have reached an agreement in principle to reschedule part of the Kingdom's foreign debts, the Finance Ministry said Monday at the conclusion of two days of talks, including a marathon session which ended late Sunday.

The Finance Ministry said in a statement that a six-member steering committee of the London Club of creditor banks and the Jordanian government agreed in principle to defer $575 million due between Jan. 1, 1989 and June 30, 1991. The payments will be made over an 11-year period with a grace period of five years during which only interest will be paid, according to the statement.

Finance Minister Basil Jardanah, who said last week that the amount involved in the week's talks in Amman was $450 million, explained that the earlier figure represented payments until Dec. 31, 1990, whereas the agreement reached covered payments until June 30, 1991.

Jordan has to come current in its interest payments which were not under consideration for rescheduling. According to the Finance Ministry statement, the country will have to pay $82 million for 1989.

"The figure is closer to $100 million in interest for 1989," an informed banking source told the JORDAN TIMES.

There was no confirmation of reports that individual members of the London Club were offering a loan package to help Jordan meet the interest payments.

"If this did happen, then it was outside the meetings in their individual capacities," another banking source told the JORDAN TIMES.

According to Jardanah, the country owes the London Club a total of $1.1 billion—about 19 per cent of the total foreign debt burden of $7.2 billion.

The minister denied reports in the foreign press that Jordan owes a total of $1.6 billion to creditor banks. "The correct figure is $1.1 billion," he told the JORDAN TIMES.

An Informed source said that the discrepancy in the figure could be the result of the exclusion of short-term loans not usually included in rescheduling.

"There are short-term loans involved but the figure is negligible," Jandanah countered.

Another source said a team of professional auditors would be visiting Jordan to determine the actual figure in order to remove any discrepancies.

The steering committee is not empowered to make the final decisions for the represented banks. Individual banks have to agree to the terms negotiated in Amman, and the government has to sign separate bilateral documents with the concerned banks.

"Usually when the steering committee agrees there is no problem with the individual banks," Jardanah said.

The committee has already sent telex messages to the respective banks outlining the proposed terms.

The rescheduling agreement already reached with the Paris Club of governmental leaders—which accounts for 43 per cent of Jordan's total foreign debt—in July stipulated that the Kingdom should seek similar terms with the London Club.

"We have rescheduled most of our debts," Jardanah said. "We only have to finalise agreements with the Soviet bloc and bilateral agreements and banks not represented by the London or Paris clubs."

The steering committee of the London Club is chaired jointly by Gulf International Bank B.S.C. and Standard Chartered Bank. The other members are Banque Nationale de Paris, the Commercial Bank of Kuwait, Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company and Union de Banques Arabes et Francaises (U.B.F.).

Jordan To Float $50 Million in Bonds in U.S.

JN1309072889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] During its session last night under His Excellency Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, the Council of Ministers agreed in principle to float $50 million worth of government bonds which will be guaranteed in the American market by the U.S. Agency for International Development. The maturity period for the bonds will be 30 years with a grace period of 10 years. The interest rate will equal that collected on U.S. Government bonds. The money will be used to support housing projects for low-income groups and to support the Jordanian balance

of payments. In addition to using it for the housing sector, this loan is considered a soft loan that will help Jordan build up its foreign currency reserve.

Chemical Complex Planned for Dead Sea

JN1209122689 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 12 Sep 89 p 6

[Article by Suhayr 'Ubayadat, JORDAN TIMES staff reporter: "Jordan's Dead Sea Comes Alive"]

[Text] Amman—Being dead is not the end of the world, on the contrary, it may even be a blessing in disguise and a beginning of a bright and prosperous future.

The Dead Sea in Jordan, in the middle of the lowest point on earth, though devoid of any signs of living creatures that normally crowd other world seas, is privileged with one of the higher mineral concentrations worldwide.

With salts and minerals seven times more than the Red Sea, the idea of exploiting the Dead Sea did not come into realisation until 1983, when a potash industry was established, (as a first stage development) with an annual production capacity of 1.4 million tonnes and a revenue of $130 million. [sentence as published]

The Arab Potash Company converted an area of about 100 square kilometres into solar evaporation pans to produce carnallite, (a salt containing 20 per cent potasium chloride). The carnallite is pumped into the refinery where potash is extracted and the remaining salts and Dead Sea brines such as sodium chloride, magnesium chloride and magnesium bromide, are returned to the sea.

In order to extract these salts, and as a second stage development, a number of processing plants are be constructed, better known as the Dead Sea chemical complex. [sentence as published]

According to the general director of the Jordanian Industrial Consortium Engineering Company (JICECO), 'Umar Dakhqan, the plan and general appraisal of the complex was completed and a detailed techno-economic feasibility study is about to begin before the end of this month.

"JICECO is the fourth common partner among three international consulting firms that will be engaged in the feasibility study which is expected to take 12-18 months," Dakhqan told the JORDAN TIMES.

The study will be financed by the Kuwait Fund for Development, the Arab Development Fund, the Islamic Bank for Development and the Jordanian Government.

The capital cost of the complex and related infrastructure is estimated at $2.5 billion, to be financed through equity, long-term loans and foreign investors, in addition to credits from regional and international financing institutions and friendly governments.

"The Jordanian participation is expected to be only 20 to 25 per cent and in local currency too," he said, adding that the construction is expected to start within three years, with a completion period of ten years, divided into different phases.

According to JICECO, the basic raw materials needed for the project such as phosphate rock, limestone and Dead Sea brines, are all local. Some other intermediary materials like ammonia, nitric acid and other petrochemicals are available in neighbouring Arab countries and will be imported from there.

It is also hoped that tar sand deposits located close to the potash plant, will be developed to produce not only steam energy but other products needed for the complex like sulphur.

"It is to be a unique project in the sense that a large number of plants will be located adjacent to each other, thus high efficiency of utilisation of raw materials and resource will be met " he said.

According to Dakhqan, all products of the chemical complex are export-oriented and not for local consumption, because Jordan is a small market and the "unique" products will not only completely substitute for the imported materials, but will also satisfy other countries.

Most products will be utilised in agriculture and industry, and include fertilisers, detergent ingredients, bleaching agents, pharmaceuticals and products used in manufacturing other products like glass.

"So you see, the process is endless and each product is expected to lead to other products and the manufacturing processes can create some derivational operations that either the complex or the private sector can perform," he said.

As it is a bulk project, it is expected to absorb large numbers of professional labour, but as Dakhqan noted, as of this point it is difficult to reach an estimated number of labour to be employed in the project.

"The private sector will have a major part in every project, and its participation is expected to reach an excellent percentage of 10-15," he said.

Naturally, such a massive project with major expenses, which expected to general good annual revenues in the range of $750 million, is bound to be given top priority by the government. [sentence as published] "It will have a major role in rectifying the current economic situation, for it is going to create new job opportunities, and it will also increase the earnings of foreign currency through exporting," he said.

The project will also entail the construction of a railtrack from the Dead Sea to al-'Aqabah, and loading and unloading facilities in the port, for it to be possible to channel the annual 7-8 million tons of production. This in addition to the housing projects, affiliated to the complex.

(It seems that the Dead Sea is not dead after all..).

Birri Expresses 'Optimism' for Cease-Fire

NC1309074789 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri has expressed optimism about the prospects for a cease-fire in Lebanon. On the other hand, Birri is reported to have said in Damascus yesterday that he is pessimistic about the prospects for changes to achieve a final solution to Lebanon's war.

According to a news agency citing a Gulf newspaper, Minister Birri added that the Arab committee will make progress in establishing a cease-fire. He said that his talks with Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam focused on the need to support the Arab committee's peace initiative, adding that he had proposed reviving the Lebanese security committee made up of representatives of the Army command, the Amal Movement, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the Lebanese Forces. The committee should also include a representative of the Lebanese Army in Beirut and another representing the Lebanese Army in al-Yarzah. The committee's task will be to monitor the cease-fire and halt the arming of all the parties.

Fighting in Beirut, Forest Areas Continues

NC1209151389 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1355 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] We have just been informed that clashes are currently raging along the Kafr Shima-al-Shuwayfat combat lines and that al-Hadath is being subjected to heavy bombardment.

Meanwhile, Israeli warplanes reconnoitered the Lebanese skies and broke the sound barrier over Beirut at 1440 today.

[Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic at 1415 GMT on 12 September adds: "For the first time in 2 years, violent clashes involving tank artillery, antitank, weapons and mortars have been raging along the Forest-Afqa line since 1645 today. A number of shells fired from Hizballah positions on the northern ridge have landed in the forest.

"In another development, Syrian shells have been landing intermittently in Suq al-Gharb since 1600. Bsaba is also coming under shellfire from al-Ma'rufiyah, while Kafr Shima is being subjected to artillery fire from al-Shuwayfat."]

Further on 'Heavy Fighting'

NC1209193189 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Heavy fighting involving machineguns and rockets is currently raging between the Lebanese Army positions and those manned by the Syrian occupation forces and their allies along the Suq al-Gharb combat lines.

Meanwhile, a number of villages in Qartaba and 'Aqurah were subjected to shellfire originating from Hizballah positions at 2020.

More on Clashes in Mountain

NC1309065389 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0430 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] The security situation continues to oscilate between tension and violent escalation. Clashes took place on the confrontation lines in al-Tayyunah, Dar al-Kitab, Mar Mikha'il, the Sciences College, al-Hadath, al-Laylakah, Kafr Shima, al-Shuwayfat, Sodeco, and Ra's al-Nab last night. Artillery shells fell deep inside residential areas. Gunfire can still be clearly heard in neighboring residential areas, particularly on the Sciences College-al-Hadath line where intermittent clashes are continuing.

Meanwhile, clashes continued on the Suq al-Gharb-'Aytat combat line in the Mountain as well as along the al-Matn lines all through last night. A number of people were killed or wounded in the indiscriminate shellfire. Hasan 'Alamah, Amal al-Hajj Yunus, and 'Adnan Karaki were among the wounded.

A building collapsed in Ra's al-Nab' yesterday evening, killing one person and wounding six others. The casualties were taken to local hospitals. The building had earlier been shelled by the al-Yarzah ['Awn forces] army.

The Jubayl ridges front was opened for the first time in years yesterday, as violent clashes raged on the Afqa line up to the town of al-Ghabat. In addition to these clashes, the towns of Afqa, al-Ghabat, al-Munaytirah, Qartaba, al-'Aqurah, Ba'labakk, and al-Yammunah were shelled.

It has been reported that a clash took place between personnel from 'Awn's army and other unidentified gunmen in the town of Lasa yesterday evening. According to information, a speeding car passed near a roadblock manned by 'Awn's army personnel in the town, who opened fire at the car. The car's occupants returned fire, resulting in a clash in which two people were wounded.

Fighting Continues in Beirut

NC1309093789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] One citizen was martyred and another was injured in clashes between Lebanese Army units and Syrian occupation forces which erupted shortly after 1100 today on the 'Ayn al-Tuffahah and Shrin battle lines. Machineguns, rockets, artillery, and tanks are being used in the fighting.

Similar clashes are also reported on the combat lines of al-Dawwar and al-'Ayrun, with shells falling on the nearby residential areas.

An exchange of rockets and automatic gunfire took place on the Sodeco-Primo-Ra's al-Nab' combat line.

Fadlallah's Home Hit

NC1309070689 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] According to security reports, the residence of Ayatollah Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah was hit during the shelling of the Southern Suburb last night. Fadlallah's son Najib and his secretary were injured. Several of Beirut's spiritual and political leaders have telephoned Fadlallah to express their concern about the incident and their relief that he was not hurt.

Hizballah Radio Reports on Offensive Against Afqa

NC1309072589 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] At 1700 yesterday, the al-Yarzah army forces [of General Michel 'Awn] and Phalangist militia launched an attack on Afqa, using a large number of infantrymen and some vehicles. The attackers used artillery and medium- and heavy-caliber machineguns in the offensive. The inhabitants of the town put up a strong resistance and a 1-hour clash ensued during which the attacking force failed to enter the town. The force had to retreat, leaving behind a damaged vehicle, the occupants of which were all killed or wounded. Two of the valiant defenders of the town were also injured.

Israeli, Resistance Activities in South Reported

NC1309083189 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] According to reports from the occupied border strip, the Israeli occupation authorities have reinforced their presence in the occupied areas with sophisticated military equipment. This is in order to confront the increasing operations by resistance fighters. The reports indicate that military measures have been taken all along the front line, from Mount Hermon up to al-Naqurah.

Security sources have stated that the occupation forces inside the occupied areas fired 15 flares over the neighboring areas last night and instituted patrols along the Lebanese-Palestinian border from the Metulla settlement to Kafr Shuba.

According to information received from the eastern sector in the South, Israeli soldiers searched Kafr Shuba and the forests around it as far as the western heights of Mount Hermon and the Shab'a groves yesterday.

Enemy forces also carried out searches in a number of villages in the occupied border strip, took more stringent measures in the Kafr Killa area, and launched a search and arrest campaign on the Kafr Killa-Dayr Mimas and al-'Udaysah-Tall al-Nahas confrontation lines. At the same time they maintained a tight siege on Kafr Killa. Israeli soldiers arrested 8 citizens and searched 50 houses.

On the Hasbayya axis, Lahd militiamen found katyushas primed to be fired in the direction of the occupation forces' positions in Abu Qamhah. Israeli occupation forces were observed laying ambushes on the fringes of Yatar. Soon afterward, Yatar and its environs were subjected to violent and concentrated artillery shelling. The Mimis sector and Jabal al-Wastani heights in the central sector in the South also came under artillery bombardment from the occupation forces' position in Zummarayya, with shells falling on the (Mazra'at 'Ayn Fjur) and (Marj al-Zuhur) line.

Meanwhile, the Amal Movement's operations room in the South has announced that the occupation forces have expelled citizen Ahmad Hamid 'Ullayq and the members of his family from the town of al- Qantarah. They first stormed his house and beat him and all his family members because he refused to recall his son to the occupied area to cooperate with the occupation forces.

In another development, resistance fighters have attacked a position held by agent Lahd's militia in Bayt Lif, scoring direct hits. Militiamen found a mine tied to a 107-mm projectile on the Dayr Siryan road.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Speech on Nonaligned Summit Results

LD1009174789 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari
0600 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Speech by Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, on results of his participation in the ninth nonaligned summit conference held in Belgrade; date, place not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Dear compatriots, sisters and brothers,

The ninth Nonaligned Movement summit meeting ended in Belgrade with shining results aimed at consolidating peace and security on our planet, and a wish for ending war and securing a political solution of the Afghanistan issue.

I, as head of the Republic of Afghanistan delegation, took part in this conference. Based on the responsibility that I have before my country and homeland, I consider it my duty to inform my dear compatriots about the work and the results of the conference and the activity of the Afghan delegation at this conference.

First of all I want to express thanks for the warm and friendly welcome and hospitality which was shown to us by the present chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, that is Yugoslavia. Our participation in this conference also provided an opportunity for us to meet the president and general secretary of the ruling party of Yugoslavia and other leaders of that country and exchange views on the international situation and relations between the Republic of Afghanistan and Yugoslavia as well as to inform them, as a friendly country and as chairman of the movement, about the proposals and views and the political situation of our country.

We can describe all our meetings and talks with the Yugoslav side as being positive, constructive, and friendly.

The high-ranking Afghan state delegation left for Belgrade at a time when the political-military situation in the country remains complicated and tense as a result of flagrant interference and aggression by Pakistani military circles within the composition of the irreconciliable and extremist opposition. The murderers of the people of Afghanistan are continuing the war, intensifying missile attacks on the cities, and are continuing mass terror against Afghanistan's people.

Our participation in the ninth conference of the Nonaligned Movement is one of the valuable events aimed at enhancing the international prestige and worthiness of the Republic of Afghanistan, which itself is considered one of the founders of the Nonaligned Movement.

Our participation in this important international gathering provided an opportunity for us to inform the world about the true situation in the Republic of Afghanistan, the constructive stand of the Republic of Afghanistan for a peaceful solution to the issue of Afghanistan, and in order to end the pain and sorrow of the people of Afghanistan.

I want to say it pleases me that representatives from more the 100 countries, which constitute a third of the world's population, acknowledged the constructive stand of the Republic of Afghanistan with interest and understanding. We took part in this conference in order to request from the movement that it explore in all possible directions ending the armed interference and aggression which is being equipped, encouraged, organized, and directed from the territory of Pakistan, ending the fratricidal war, ensuring peace and national compromise, forming a broad-based government, and forcing Pakistan to observe the Geneva Accords.

The delegation of the Republic of Afghanistan once again presented a realistic stand with regard to attaining a peaceful political solution to the situation in and around Afghanistan.

I want to say with pleasure that our proposals at the conference were welcomed and approved by a majority of its members with understanding, support, unity, and solidarity.

The climate of the conference was imbued with the fact that our honesty and our decisiveness, in order to struggle toward a political and peaceful solution of the situation in and around Afghanistan, has been approved more than ever by all the countries, even those which were doubtful of the Afghan stand. The extensive support of the heads of state and governments for the peaceful stand of the Republic of Afghanistan is a manifestation of the fact that the world understands us more than ever.

The movement expressed comprehensive and extensive support for the peaceful stand of the Republic of Afghanistan. They realize that there is no military solution to the issue of Afghanistan, and they once again rejected the warmongering plans with regard to a military solution in Afghanistan.

The speeches by the heads of delegations from more than 100 countries, and our fruitful and useful meetings with more than 30 world leaders showed that the militarily interfering and unrealistic policy of Pakistan has been rejected, and that this country has become isolated by following the expansionist and hegemonistic policy of the United States.

I want to mention with pride that today it is our voice of peace which is being approved. Not the hue and cry of those who want to extend the suffering of Afghanistan's people with the continuation of war and fratricide, and to endanger the peace and security of the region and the world. The resolution of the Nonaligned Movement in

Belgrade on Afghanistan was approved despite the hostile stand and sabotage policy of Pakistan. In accordance with the new resolution, the national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence of Afghanistan has been respected and approved. Any type of interference in the internal affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan has been condemned.

I want to proudly declare to the Muslim nation of Afghanistan that the proposed plan by the delegation of the Republic of Afghanistan concerning the respect and support for the Islamic stand of the Republic of Afghanistan was welcomed and supported extensively and comprehensively by all members of the movement. One of our new proposals within the framework of the first resolution, which had been prepared by the Coordination Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement to the host country, Yugoslavia, was approved despite resistance from Pakistan's delegation. Based on that, the President of Yugoslavia, as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, was entrusted with continuing the activities of His Excellency Robert Mugabe, president of Zimbabwe and former chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, with achieving a peaceful political solution to the issues in and around Afghanistan.

In my meeting with his excellency the president of Yugoslavia, who is also the present chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, his excellency expressed readiness to continue efforts in order to achieve peace in Afghanistan and to find a political solution to the problems of Afghanistan. It should be added that terrorism is presently a threat to a number of the movement's members. Therefore, for the first time, the proposal by the Republic of Afghanistan and by a number of other countries to combat terrorism was approved in the political communique of the conference.

Every type of terrorism, including state terrorism, was condemned. This resolution by itself opposes the actions of some countries such as Pakistan and the United States who support terrorist groups against the Republic of Afghanistan. In my meeting with the heads of states and governments of Asian, African, Latin American and Caribbean, and European countries, including Libya, Palestine, Vietnam, Yugoslavia, India, Jordan, Syria, People's Republic of Benin, Zimbabwe, Cyprus, Iraq, Angola, Ghana, Cuba, Mozambique, Argentina, North Yemen, Ethiopia, Zambia, Nicaragua, Democratic Republic of Yemen, Tanzania, Mali, Laos, Democratic Republic of Korea, Venezuela, the Republic of Guinea Bissau, the UN secretary general, and the leader of the South-West African People's Organization, the realistic and fair position and proposal of the Republic of Afghanistan on the political resolution of Afghanistan's problems was explained.

Apart from individual interviews given at a news conference, which was attended by more than 100 journalists representing news agencies and mass media, questions were answered.

During the meetings with heads of state or government, serious concern was expressed by all countries on the continuation of armed intervention, the intensification of war and bloodshed, arming and financing of the armed opposition, the nonrestoration of peace, and the extended violation by Pakistan of the Geneva Accords. During our meeting, His Excellency Kenneth Kaunda told me that the sending of arms and the helping of the armed extremist opposition is not only a crime against the people of Afghanistan but it is also a crime against humanity. His Excellency Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the Libyan leader, in his speech said that Afghanistan is a victim of U.S. aggression. He also said that the stand of the legal state of the Republic of Afghanistan should be supported.

In this meeting we once again stated that we expected foreign interference would cease and the severity of war would decrease with the signing of the Geneva Accords and the completion of the withdrawal of the Soviet Union. Pakistan's violating of its international undertakings and ignoring all internationally accepted principles has unprecedentedly intensified the war to achieve a military victory and to impose a Pakistan-made puppet government on the people of Afghanistan. We stated to the movement and its leaders that the continuation of this policy will have no result but to increase killing in the land of the Afghans and will ruin our beloved land.

The Nonaligned Movement leaders were more acquainted with the national reconciliation policy and with our efforts for putting an end to the war and the reconstruction of the country and the unity and cooperation with all political forces of the country. They expressed their full support for them. The Republic of Afghanistan's position that the main cause of the continuation of war is foreign military assistance to the opposition, and that the sending of arms to the sides involved in the fighting should cease simultaneously with the declaration of a cease-fire, and that with further steps, that is, talks among Afghans for setting up a leadership council and a broad-based government with its future fundamental tasks, has been supported by the majority of heads of state or government.

During the debates and meetings with the members of the movement, we found that the idea of convening an international conference for realizing the permanent neutrality and demilitarization of Afghanistan enjoys the support of the Nonaligned Movement.

The talks and meetings revealed that the majority of members of the Nonaligned Movement have adopted a realistic policy vis-a-vis Afghanistan, and that this process, due to real national and international events, has been encouraged.

These countries have described the Geneva Accords as a firm political and legal foundation for a peaceful political solution in Afghanistan and express support for the role of nonalignment and the United Nations in

achieving peace in Afghanistan. The Nonaligned Movement expressed their strong support for the duty of the UN secretary general on Afghanistan.

Due to these facts, Pakistan was unable to attract the minimum of support from the movement for its interventionist and aggressive strategy. The low level of participation by Pakistan in the ninth conference of the Nonaligned Movement is a manifestation of the fact that Pakistan did not have the courage to justify its interventionist and aggressive policy against Afghanistan to international opinion. The stand that was taken yesterday by the Republic of Afghanistan is being increasingly (?supported). Our country today enjoys formidable prestige in international society and in the Nonaligned Movement. This formidable gain also stems from the current realistic and active policy of the Republic of Afghanistan, as well as indebtedness to the heroism and unprecedented bravery of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan and people of Afghanistan in displaying resistance and firmness against the interventionists, foreign aggressors, and the armed and murderous extremist units.

The Belgrade conference revealed that the Republic of Afghanistan occupies a worthy position in the movement. I fully believe that the people of Afghanistan, with the assistance of Almighty God, have the support of the Nonaligned Movement for ending the war and bloodshed, and for the restoration of peace.

After taking part in the Belgrade conference, the delegation of the Republic of Afghanistan traveled to Romania for a working visit at the invitation of His Excellency Nicolae Ceausescu, president of Romania. The leadership of the Socialist Republic of Romania warmly welcomed the Afghan delegation.

The Afghan delegation's visit to Romania is being regarded as an important step for broadening and consolidating relations between the two countries, which have a long history of cooperation and friendship.

During the talks with the Romanian side, emphasis was made on the point that the Republic of Afghanistan, by following the policy of national reconciliation being fully supported by the people of Afghanistan, has prepared the ground for the solution of domestic problems. However, the external aspects of the issue, which are the very continuation, intensification of interference, and aggression still remain as obstacles on the way toward the acceleration of the peace process in the country and in the region.

During the talks, the Afghan delegation briefed the Romanian side on the development of the military and political situation after the withdrawal of the Soviet troops as well as on the violation of the Geneva Accords by Pakistan and the continuation of the intensive aggression and intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. An explanation was also given to the Romanian side about the Belgrade conference and the important decisions made in accordance with the objectives and principle of the Nonaligned Movement on maintaining and consolidating international peace and security as well as the decisions of the Nonaligned Movement in Belgrade, including the decision on the peaceful political solution to the Afghanistan problem.

The Romanian side expressed support for the national reconciliation policy as a good foundation for ensuring peace and denounced the aggression and interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

The Afghan side expressed its agreement to the idea of convening joint a peace conference between the government and those opposition forces inside and outside of Afghanistan who want talks and an end to the war.

The Romanian side expressed its readiness to ensure the establishment of contacts between the state of the Republic of Afghanistan and the opposition. The Romanian side agreed to open the Romanian Embassy in Kabul soon, with this being considered another step toward the consolidation and expansion of bilateral ties. The Romanian expressed readiness to render assistance to the Republic of Afghanistan in various economic, trade, scientific and technical, and cultural fields. The hard days of the people of the Republic of Afghanistan are passing by. The people of Afghanistan will not forget those who render assistance to us at this momentous time for our country.

Fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers,

I want to say with pride that we are returning from the Belgrade conference with pride, a strong heart, and with a more powerful will. This honor belongs to you, the Muslim, proud, and powerful nation of Afghanistan.

Brothers, your Afghan Shemla [reference to turban, sign of honor] will became increasingly higher in the world. Help comes from God and success is near.

Najibullah Would Welcome King's Return

BK1209155589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] President Najibullah of Afghanistan says that he would welcome the return of King Zahir Shah if it helps restore peace and tranquillity in the country. This was conveyed to the Congress-I general secretary, Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad, who led a high-level delegation to Kabul.

Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi on his return this afternoon, Mr Azad said that President Najibullah had been requesting the king to return to Afghanistan for the last 3 years.

Mujahidin Premier Rules Out Role for Ex-King

BK1209164489 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] The prime minister of the Afghan interim government, Prof Abdul Rab Rasool Sayyaf, at a news conference in Peshawar today ruled out any role for the former Afghan king in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. He said the former Afghan king was directly responsible for the present calamity in Afghanistan. He also ruled out any possibility of sharing power with the Kabul regime or any political role for King Zahir Shah.

The prime minister of the Afghan interim government said: We will have close and cordial ties with all countries of the region, particularly with those who stood by the mujahidin in their hours of tribulation. He mentioned Pakistan as a brotherly country with which they will have special ties and a very close relationship.

Letter Issued Accepting New Soviet Ambassador

LD1209202189 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] The Information Department of the Foreign Ministry reports that recently the letter of acceptance of His Excellency Boris Nikolayvich Postohov, who has been proposed as the USSR's ambassador and representative-extraordinary in the Republic of Afghanistan, has been issued by the presidential office of Afghanistan.

Mujahidin Reportedly Advance Toward Khowst

BK1209153089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin have made fresh advances toward Khowst cantonment in Paktia Province. The reports say they are near the last defense lines of the Kabul regime forces in several localities.

Meanwhile, a Kabul regime general, (Faruq Sharif), who recently sought asylum in the West, has said the situation in Kabul is deteriorating. In an interview with Voice of America he said the Kabul citizens are facing shortages of standard-quality goods and fuel, prices have skyrocketed, and life has become very difficult.

Armed Forces Consolidate Positions in Khowst

LD1209185189 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] An authorized source in the Armed Forces told the military section of BAKHTAR that the units and companies of the country's heroic Armed Forces stationed in Khowst District are consolidating their positions and defense lines. They also retaliated against heavy-weapons fire from the enemy joint forces and attacked enemy firing positions, including a number of Pakistani militarists and Saudi Wahhabis who were among the armed extremists. As a result of rocket, air, and artillery fire, 47 enemy were killed and 18 wounded; two vehicles carrying weapons and ammunition and one tank belonging to them were destroyed. In the course of this combat operation, four members of the Armed Forces were wounded.

According to another report the units and companies of the Armed Forces stationed in Nangarhar Province are also engaged in consolidating their positions and defense lines. A number of units have carried out clearing operations in the direction of Samar Kheyl. As a result of artillery fire from units of the Armed Forces in response to heavy-weapons fire from the enemy, 21 enemy were killed and 28 wounded. A number of heavy weapons belonging to the enemy were seized.

The situation in other parts of the country is generally calm.

Mujahidin Leader on Rebel Defense Ministry

BK1209141689 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] The prime minister of the interim government of Afghanistan, Prof Abdul Rab Rasool Sayyaf, has said that all the Afghan mujahidin [armed] groups would be brought under the ministry of defense of the government. Addressing a news conference in Peshawar today, he said a powerful delegation comprising commanders and ulemas of the mujahidin will soon make decisions on the appointment of governors and administrative heads of the liberated territory in Afghanistan.

Rebel Rockets Damage UN Plane in Kabul

BK1309100689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1001 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Sept 13 (AFP)—Mujahidin rebels sent a barrage of rockets into Kabul airport Wednesday morning, slightly damaging a United Nations courier plane, eyewitnesses and airport personnel said.

There were no casualties on the U.N. plane, which had just landed when the rockets fell.

The U.N. runs a shuttle regular service between Peshawar, Pakistan, and Kabul carrying personnel and supplies, a U.N. official at the airport said.

The rockets also damaged another plane at the airport and left windows of the VIP lounge smashed, an AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE reporter on the scene said.

"The first one landed about 9:15 a.m. (0245 GMT) and the second one just afterwards. Then they kept falling. We saw another plane hit, but I don't know what it was," said one of the passengers aboard the U.N. plane, who was awaiting word whether the aircraft would be able to take off or not.

"The damage was to the fuselage," the passenger said, adding "I don't know how bad."

Airport security personnel waved a journalist away from the area, saying "not finished, not finished."

At the passenger terminal, security personnel said all the damage had been at the VIP area, but were unable to say whether or not there were casualties. The last heavy rocketing of the airport was on September 2 when President Najibullah was set to depart for the nonaligned summit in Belgrade.

Kabul Supply Convoy Fails To Reach Qandahar

BK1309025489 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin have foiled a fresh attempt by the Kabul regime supply convoy to reach the besieged southern city of Qandahar. According to news agency reports, a convoy comprising 1,000 trucks and armored vehicles could not proceed further from Maywand, 50 km from Qandahar. The convoy was dispatched over 2 weeks ago in view of difficulties faced in sending supplies by airplanes following the mujahidins' tight control on the Qandahar Airport. The road link between Kabul and Qandahar has remained cut off ever since the departure of the last Soviet troops from Afghanistan in February.

Bangladesh

President Ershad Returns From Belgrade Summit

BK0809160289 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] President Ershad returned home on Friday [8 September] morning after attending the nonaligned summit in Belgrade. Besides addressing the inaugural session, the president met with a number of nonaligned leaders and exchanged views on different issues.

President Ershad's address was widely appreciated, and Bangladesh played an important role in finalizing the document of the summit. The president was accompanied by Begum Raushan Ershad and Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud.

Iran's Velayati Arrives for 1-Day Visit 13 Sep

BK1309164189 Hong Kong AFP in English 1623 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 13 (AFP)—Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived here late Wednesday for talks with Bangladesh leaders on bilateral cooperation and regional and international issues.

Mr Velayati was greeted by Bangladesh Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud on his arrival by air from Kuala Lumpur for a 24-hour visit, airport officials said. Mr Velayati, who is the first Iranian foreign minister to visit Dhaka since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, is scheduled to hold formal talks with Mr Mahmud on Thursday.

An official here said their discussions would cover the "entire range of bilateral cooperation." There are some 10,000 expatriate Bangladeshis, including doctors and engineers, working in Iran.

Mr Mahmud visited Tehran in December and held talks with Mr Velayati on boosting political, commercial, and technical ties between the two Muslim countries, both members of the 45-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference. The Iranian minister is also due to call on President Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

Trade Talks With India End; Agreement Extended

BK1009161289 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Bangladesh and India have extended the duration of the existing bilateral trade agreement for another 3 years. This is the third extension of the third trade agreement. The new extension comes into effect from the 4th of the month. A letter extending the agreement was signed at the end of trade review talks today. The talks began in Dhaka yesterday. Earlier, the officials of the two sides signed an agreed minute providing for areas of bilateral cooperation in trade.

During the talks, the two sides, noting the persistent imbalance against Bangladesh, observed that corrective measures be taken in the interest of balanced trade between the two neighbors. To achieve the objective, the two sides agreed in principle to explore the possibility of entering into a long-term agreement for export of newsprint and urea from Bangladesh to India. Besides, agreements were reached for appropriate steps for [word indistinct] of jute carpets and Jamdani saris as per decisions taken in the last trade review talks in New Delhi. The two sides emphasized the need for greater exchange of information between the private sectors. They agreed to organize buyer-seller meets and trade fairs. Emphasis was laid on the holding of joint business council meetings between the national chambers of the two countries. Commerce Minister M.A. Sattar led the Bangladeshi delegation at the trade talks. India was represented at the meeting by Minister of State for Commerce Priya Ranjan Das Munshi.

Former Ministers Form New Political Party

BK1009130189 Hong Kong AFP in English 1240 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 10 (AFP)—Two of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad's former ministers announced Sunday the formation of a new political party aimed at establishing a "democratic state system" combining Islamic values with democratic freedoms.

They described the 1988 polls as a "political crime."

Former Minister of Information Salauddin Quadir Chowdhury and ex-Health Minister Anwar Zahid told a

crowded press conference here that the National Democratic Party (NDP) would aim to hold "reliable parliamentary elections to restore the sanctity of the electoral process."

Both men resigned from the cabinet at the height of the opposition's anti-Ershad campaign in January 1988 and were expelled from Mr Ershad's ruling Jatiya Party (JP) soon afterwards.

The two former ministers called the 1988 parliamentary elections, which saw the JP win a resounding victory, the "worst political crime in our history."

They added that the country had "entered into great uncertainties democratically, morally, and constitutionally after last year's elections."

The 1988 election was boycotted by major opposition political parties, including Sheikh Hasina Wajed's Awami League and Begum Khaled Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

Both women claimed free and fair polls were not possible under the regime of General Ershad, who came to power in a 1982 bloodless coup.

Mr Chowdhury and Mr Zahid said other objectives of the NDP included preserving national independence, sovereignty and identity based on the people's history, their religious belief and culture.

They released a 20-page draft manifesto, which showed that the party plans to work to uphold Islamic values and ensure free speech, basic human rights and freedom of association for trade unions.

The manifesto said the NDP would make the cabinet accountable to Parliament and would work to reduce the country's trade deficit.

The new party joins more than 100 other political groups in Bangladesh.

India

Steps Taken To Check Bangladesh Refugee Influx

BK1209131289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] The Tripura government has taken several steps to check a fresh influx of refugees from Bangladesh. This was stated by the state chief secretary to newsmen in Agartala today. He said about 27-kilometers-long road along the India-Bangladesh border has been constructed for smooth patrolling by the BSF [Border Security Force]. The government has also clamped night curfew for an indefinite period along the stretch of 5 kilometers of border area to check the recent spurt in trans-border crimes. He said the number of refugees who crossed into Indian territory since 1986 reached 70,000.

Bangladesh Accused of Masterminding Riots

BK1309055189 Delhi PATRIOT in English 7 Sep 89 p 5

[Text] Agartala, Sept 6—The Bangladesh government masterminded large scale communal riots in nine tribal villages of Longadu sub-district in early May this year which left 32 dead including a few infants.

This was stated by the Parbatiya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti [Chittagong Hill People's Solidarity Committee] spearheading the movement for autonomy for the Chittagong hill tracts. The detailed investigative report on the Longadu massacre released recently accused that the Bangladesh government in collusion with other agencies unleashed a genocide in the nine tribal dominated villages forcing about 1,000 inhabitants to cross over to Mizoram.

However, the Mizos known for their anti-Chakma stand, pushed back the refugees who are forced to move in jungles fleeing from the Bangladesh security forces. And they are likely to enter Tripura.

The investigation report, a copy of which is being sent to the International Human Rights Organisation, made a shocking reference about the brutality of the government-backed rioters who had not even spared a three-year-old Namita Chakma and old women and even a pro-government tribal leader like Anil Behari Chakma.

The rampaging rioters demolished six Buddhist monasteries. The riot began after the murder of nominated chairman of the Longadu sub-district, Abdul Rashid Sarkar by some unknown miscreants in the wake of difference with another group of plainlanders for the post of chairman. It has nothing to do with the tribals, the report asserted. But the Bangladesh forces blamed the tribals and the armed wing Shanti Bahini of the Jana Samhati Samiti and carried out a large scale genocide as soon as Mr Rashid Sarkar was killed.

The report said that soon after the murder of the chairman, Major Zakir Hussain of the 40th East Bengal Regiment based in Mainee Mukh organised the riot in all the nine villages with the help of the armed village defence party and the plainlanders who pounced on the tribals with lethal weapons.

A delegation comprising local tribal leaders submitted a memorandum to the commander Brigadier Sarafat Ali of the 24 Infantry Division of the Bangladesh army based in Rangamati, soon after the massacre but the plainlanders, in front of the brigadier warned that "whatever they had done it was after the approval from the Bangladesh government, and they will do so, if they get the order again".

This speaks volumes of the ongoing battle in the Chittagong hill tracts and also an indication that the Bangladesh government, although apparently trying for the repatriation of the refugees, is in no mood to resettle the tribal refugees.

Significance of Opposition Strike Assessed

BK0809143289 Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 Sep 89 p 5

[Article in "Sundayview" column by Nikhil Chakravartty entitled "Significance of Bharat Bundh"]

[Text] The excitement over the Bharat Bundh [all-India strike] having subsided, it is perhaps worthwhile to assess its significance in terms of the sharp polarisation that is taking place as part of the political preparations for the coming Lok Sabha poll.

While the central slogan of the organisers of the Bharat Bundh was the demand for the resignation of the Rajiv Government, they were by no means so naive as to expect that as the immediate consequence of this nationwide political action, the Prime Minister would be forced to quit his much coveted office. Rather, the call for this bundh was meant to mark a new milestone of the protracted political campaign that the major Opposition parties have jointly been conducting to reach its climax in the showdown at the impending general election for the Lok Sabha. Nothing more, and nothing else.

Judging by such a yardstick, one has to concede that the campaign leading up to the bundh, and the extent of its success registered a definite advance for the Opposition cause. While it would be unreal to expect that the Rajiv Government has reached the point of collapse, it is clear, at the same time, that the bundh has shown that the ruling party has suffered a setback in terms of its prestige and mass support. This decline in support for Rajiv Gandhi and his Government could be seen in the significant response that the bundh received not only in the State ruled by non-Congress parties, but among a considerable section of the public in States ruled by the Congress, including in the Capital of India. Despite unprecedently elaborate police bandobast [arrangements], the support for the bundh manifested itself in the voluntary closure of markets and shops, the conspicuously meagre turn-out of taxis and autorickshaws. The State-owned bus services were forced open by the authorities but the passenger turnout was appallingly meagre—substantiating thereby that the bundh had the willing support of a large number of the public, even when they could neither be approached by the Opposition parties nor were they accessible to them on the eve of the bundh or the day itself because of the stringent police control.

A very important feature of the bundh campaign has been the unity that was displayed among the parties in the Opposition. After months of seemingly interminable squables and equally unresolved disputes the Opposition parties at one crucial moment demonstrated their united stand against the Rajiv Government almost in a flash when their MPs [members of Parliament] resigned en masse from the Lok Sabha six weeks ago. That was a totally unexpected shock for the Congress bosses as they could not believe that the different Opposition parties could even take such a common stand with the direct call for the removal of the Rajiv Government. In line with that spectacular manifestation of Opposition unity has come the united campaign for the bundh in which the leader of the Janata Dal-led National Front shared common platform with the leaders of the Left. The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] which did not share that platform joined in the bundh campaign and contributed effectively towards its success though its Maharashtra unit tagged to the Shiv Sena brought about its own isolation from the mainstream Opposition politics.

The experience of the bundh has brought out a very serious weakness of the Congress as a political party. In such a key political campaign of nationwide dimension, the Congress could hardly muster its own following. The Congress mobilisation to combat the Opposition call for the bundh was miserable even in the States governed by it. The fight against the bundh call was sustained by the harnessing of the bureaucratic machinery in a blatant manner never seen before. In other words, the bundh has brought out the critical weakness of the Rajiv Congress as a political mobiliser of the masses. It has shown up the lack of faith of the ruling party in its own capacity to rally the masses. It is the administrative crutches that seems to be keeping it going to a large measure.

The scale of government intervention against the bundh has no precedent in the 40 years of independence. Even during the emergency one could hardly recall such massive display of state power. Apart from elaborate deployment of police force, this included blatant intimidation of Government employees by open threat of break of their service, right up to the bizarre arrangements for the housing of thousands of employees in the Central Government offices, which were turned into huge makeshift camps and mismanaged kitchens—making an utter mockery of Government functioning.

Side by side was the non-stop propaganda against the bundh over the radio and television carried on for days on a scale which only Goebbels could have planned and executed. Political campaign degenerated into an outrageous psychological warfare. Not only has this act of vandalism in Governemnt propaganda divested the Government-owned media of any credibility but has inflicted an irreparable damage upon it which its perpetrators do not seem to be capable of gauging.

As part of the propaganda campaign by the Rajov establishemnt against the bundh, the Central Government machinery was used uninhibited to browbeat the Opposition-led State Governments and publicising offensive ukase against them as an exhibition of the Centre's imperious authority.

In reality, such intemperate attack on the bundh is bound to boomerang. For one thing, the Central Government employees who were dragooned into their offices on the bundh day carried a very poor impression about the wisdom and authority of the Rajiv Government. For them, the Government seemed to have been in a state of panic, ensconcing itself in a state of siege. If

anything, the bulk of this vast army of thousands of Central Government employees went through the bundh day bereft of any respect for the persons in authority. In terms of counting votes at the next Lok Sabha poll, this may prove disastrous for the Congress.

The reckless overdose of Government propaganda over the radio and television has had an adverse reaction on the public as borne out by the sample survey carried out by newspapers known to be friendly to the Rajiv government. If anything, the disbelief in the Government-owned media will grow among vast sections of uncommitted public.

Similarly, the dire warnings repeatedly sent out by the Home Minister and his minions against the non-Congress State governments would not only harden their attitude against the Centre but would be taken by large sections of the public in these States as the Centre's insulting approach to their elected representatives running the State governments.

To put it in a nutshell, the total experience of the Bharat Bundh points to the conclusion that Rajiv Gandhi will find it more difficult to face the challenge at the general election while the Opposition has made some significant gains in its political fortunes.

Minister Denies Report on Spy Satellite

BK1109085889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] The outlay on scientific research and development is to be doubled during the eighth [5-year development] plan. The minister of state for science and technology, Mr K.R. Narayanan, told newsmen in New Delhi today that necessary plans are being worked out toward this end following the prime minister's directive. At present 1 to 1.5 percent of the total outlay is utilized toward research and development activity.

Replying to a question, the minister said that states have been asked to reactivate their science and technology councils. He regretted that most states are not properly funding these councils.

Replying to another question, the minister refuted the reports appearing in a section of the foreign media that India has plans to build a spy satellite.

3 Killed by 'Terrorists,' Arms Seized in Punjab

BK1209033289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] In Punjab, terrorists shot dead three members of a family and seriously injured another three in village Nabuke of Amritsar District last night. Security forces have cordoned off the area and a massive search for the culprits has been launched.

Elsewhere in the state, a huge quantity of arms and ammunition was recovered by the Border Security Force following an encounter with the terrorists near the border outpost at Jhuliwala. The seizure included six Chinese assault rifles and two rocket launchers.

6 'Terrorists' Killed, 2 Arrested in Punjab

BK1309091589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] In Punjab, six more terrorists have been killed and two arrested since last night.

According to an official spokesman, a police party escorting a hard-core terrorist, Darshan Singh, for recovering arms and ammunition was ambushed near village Dhreli in Amritsar District last night. In an exchange of fire, Darshan Singh and four of the attacking terrorists were killed. A bullet-ridden body of a terrorist was recovered in the Khalara area of the district.

In Jullundur District, security forces arrested two terrorists after a brief encounter in Nawashahar area.

2 Maoist Extremists Killed in Andhra Pradesh

BK1209032489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, two Naxalites [Maoist extremists] belonging to the People's War Group were killed and another surrendered yesterday. Police sources in Warangal said on receiving information that Naxalites were hiding in Golgoddam village, a police party rushed to the area. On being challenged, the Naxalites opened fire on the police. Two of them were killed in a return fire. A police constable and a civilian sustained bullet injuries. A large quantity of arms, including electric detonators, was recovered. One Naxalite surrendered to the police in Visakhapatnam.

Meanwhile, the Orissa chief minister, Mr Patnaik, has said that the state government will extend all possible help to the Andhra Pradesh government to help it deal with the Naxalite problem. Mr Patnaik was replying to a discussion in the state assembly yesterday. The entire opposition staged a walkout alleging total failure of the law and order machinery in the state.

Iran

Fuladi Urges No Release for Britain's Cooper

LD1209171189 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 12, IRNA—Iranian mass media especially newspapers continue to reflect on medieval tortures practised by the British Government as disclosed by an Iranian national Kurosh Fuladi.

The Persian daily KAYHAN Tuesday quoted Fuladi as pledging to the Iranian officials not to release the British spy Roger Cooper under the pretext of an exchange.

"I have served my prison term (10 years) in the British jails, and Cooper too should do the same after being tried," Fuladi told KAYHAN.

"Such a deal would be a victory for the fascist British Government and a great insult to the Islamic Revolution and the country," the daily elsewhere warned.

ETTELA'AT, another evening daily, depicted Fuladi's tortured face and said he has a blind eye and a paralysed hand. "It is satirical at the same time that Cooper with a cheerful face has enough time in the prison to spend on research and comment on Persian culture and literature."

Fuladi has been barbarously tortured by a country which considers itself as a supporter of civilization and human rights, ETTELA'AT commented.

Kurosh Fuladi was arrested in Britain in 1980 on charges of bombing and served a ten-year prison term. He returned home early Monday.

UK-Iran Moves Examined

LD1209174389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Dear listeners, the move by the British Government to release Kurosh Fuladi, one of the Islamic Republic terrorists, and his departure for Tehran, has, in the past 2 days, generated comment in the world's news forums. This move by Britain has taken p'ace when, a little before this, Roger Cooper, the British spy imprisoned in Tehran, translated a verse from Khomeyni and sent it to the regime's press for publication. At the same time, the newspaper TEHRAN TIMES, which is affiliated to the Foreign Ministry wrote (?extensively) about Cooper's translation, to the point that it made the hardline camp within the ruling clique very angry.

These two [as heard] political moves by the British Government are rings from the same chain, aimed at melting the ice that presently exists in relations between London and Tehran—since, following the Salman Rushdie affair, the Islamic Republic majlis voted to break relations with Britain and made the condition for the resumption of these relations a show of so-called goodwill on Britain's part. At that point the hardliners' teeth—which benefitted also from the support of Khomeyni—bit harder and as a consequence, the Foreign Ministry officials and their chief supporters, that is, Rafsanjani and Khaneme'i, gave way to a kind of withdrawal and expedient harmony. But today, when the Rafsanjani-Khamene'i team has got the upper hand and wants to re-establish relations all the sooner, with big imperialist countries, this team is obliged to clarify the fate of its (?future) relations with Britain as well. Under these circumstances, British statesmen have rushed to assist Rafsanjani and they are endeavoring—by demonstrating their goodwill and granting some concessions—to prepare the ground for compensating for the past.

The release of the Islamic Republic terrorist from a British prison, and the move by Roger Cooper in the prison in Tehran, are examples of this policy. The British know well that they must do something to please the hardliners and also to bring about a situation which would both make everyone forget the Rushdie sensation, and would at the same time avoid any extreme reaction by the hardliner faction in the face of Rafsanjani's plan to renew relations.

They thus intend to wink at [words indistinct] and to (?support) Rafsanjani and his clique indirectly until he rides the tide. In this way British officials want to kill two birds with one stone. On the one hand they aim to prepare the preliminary steps for resuming relations with the government of the Akhunds [mullahs] and on the other they want to (?checkmate) the hardliners in the face of Rafsanjani's plans in the arena of foreign policy. Now, it appears that this calculated scenario is being implemented stage by stage so that the conditions for open action by the Rafsanjani-Khamene'i team may be revived. The consenting silence of Rafsanjani and the Foreign Ministry in the face of these moves confirm this.

Transformation of Administrative System Planned

LD1209195289 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 12, IRNA—Vice President and Secretary General of State Organization for Administrative and Employment Affairs (SOAE) Seyyed Mansur Razavi Monday said Iran's administrative system will soon be transformed.

The Majlis, government and civil employees had so far engaged in a war imposed by the Iraq regime, he said noting "but now as there is no such issue, no excuse will be accepted."

On implementation of new government's plan, Razavi said a new move will be started in his organization "much more rapidly than before." "Our movement should be followed at full speed as required by the Islamic revolution," he stressed.

If some cannot catch up with the speed, they must search for another opportunity, the vice president warned and emphasized on the need to put an end to bureaucracy.

The SOAE secretary-general promised in the gathering to severely confront corruption in administrative organs. An administrative development bill will be submitted to the Majlis, he noted.

Seyyed Mansur Razavi was deputy prime minister and SOAE secretary-general before the constitutional amendment. He was appointed vice president and reinstated as SOAE secretary general by President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Razavi was born in Esfahan in 1952 and graduated in civil engineering one year before the victory of the 1979 Islamic revolution. He has been serving as SOAE head for seven years.

Majlis Commission Refutes Khorasani Statement

LD1309110289 Tehran IRNA in English 1032 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 13, IRNA—The Majlis Foreign Affairs Commission Wednesday described the recent statements of head of the commission Sa'id Raja'i Khorasani on establishment of ties with Saudi Arabia as his "personal views".

Raj'ai Khorasani in an interview with the English daily TEHRAN TIMES last week had called on the Foreign Ministry to make efforts for resumption of ties with Saudi Arabia.

"The statements did not reflect views of the Foreign Affairs Commission," said the statement issued by the commission.

Expressing strong loyalty to the aspirations of the late leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni, the statement said that any move in this direction will be made in accordance with the views of the new leader of the revolution, Ayatollah Ali Khamene'i.

Security Council Debates Security Issues 11 Sep

LD1209142189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] The first meeting of the country's Security Council since the referendum on constitutional amendments was convened last night in the presence of the country's security, intelligence, and military officials.

Our correspondent reports that in that meeting, Abdullah Nuri chairman of the country's Security Council, stressed the need for coordination and for the creation of unified stances in connection with the country's security affairs. He also stressed the necessity to confront social corruption.

A report on the country's political and security situation was debated and reviewed, and the necessary decisions made on the said issues.

Rafsanjani Resignation as Forces Chief Lauded

NC1109180389 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 3 Sep 89

[Editorial: "Rafsanjani Resignation as Forces Chief a Good Move"]

[Text] In a letter to the leader of the Islamic Republic, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani resigned his post as acting commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces. Among his reasons, the president mentioned his new responsibilities as head of the executive arm of the country.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani was appointed as acting commander of the Armed Forces in June 1988 by the late leader of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeyni and was nominated by Ayatollah Khamene'i.

Leaving the responsibilities of the Armed Forces in the hands of Ayatollah Khamene'i does not come as a very surprising move considering the high expectations placed in President Hashemi-Rafsanjani and his cabinet to deal with problems and difficulties of the country and also on the no-peace no-war situation of the fronts. Yet the leader of the Islamic Republic being the most qualified person at this juncture to take over the duties of commaner, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani has done well to leave things to him. During two terms as president of the country Ayatollah Khamene'i has been directly involved with the day-to-day activities within the military and he is therefore well equipped and the most knowledgeable to guide and take control of the Armed Forces.

One of the most important tasks that President Hashemi-Rafsanjani during his time in the military was trying to achieve was to coordinate the activities between various branches of the military, in particular that of the Army and the Revolutionary Guards. As a result of his efforts this coordination grew dramatically and needs continuity for greater achievements.

The other important point is the need for eliminating parallel offices within the Armed Forces. This was originally proposed by Imam Khomeyni, but has not been fulfilled yet. As a major step towards accomplishing this vital goal a bill was recently passed by the Majlis combining the Ministries of Defense and Revolutionary Guards Corps and creating the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics, instead. Of course, by combining the logistical activities and leadership of the ministries one is not suggesting that the two branches of the Armed Forces should be integrated into one.

Altogether the resignation of President Hashemi-Rafsanjani and leaving the Armed Forces in the trusted hands of the leader of the Islamic Republic is a positive move and can augur well for the future.

Paper Calls for 'Steadfastness' Against U.S.

NC1209135789 Tehran ETTELAT'AT in Persian 31 Aug 89 pp 1, 4

[Unattributed commentary: "The New Government and a Multifaceted Campaign Against the United States"]

[Excerpts] Following free debates and the necessary assessment by the Islamic Majlis, a new cabinet has been finally selected by the votes of the people's representatives. The strategy of the new government is also based on the preservation of independence, prestige, and honor and the upholding of the revolution and Islam in Iran, as was the case with the previous government.

We have prided ourselves hitherto on our steadfastness before the aggressor Government of the United States, and we will continue to do so. Contrary to the propaganda in the present world, the steadfastness and struggle of our government against the U.S. Government is not without reason or results, but is a legitimate, reasonable, and logical defense. [passage omitted]

The government of engineer Musavi did not get the desired opportunity to act in a multilateral way in its legitimate defense campaign and confrontation with the U.S. Government, or to utilize all its cultural, economic, artistic, industrial, and other tactics in parallel with its political and military tactics, even though it exerted its maximum efforts. However, now there is hope that Hashemi-Rafsanjani's government may have this opportunity.

The members of the cabinets of engineer Musavi as well as of Hashemi-Rafsanjani knew and are aware of the fact that the United States is a strong superpower—affluent, bloodthirsty, and world-devouring. [passage omitted].

The beautiful and succinct utterances of Hashemi-Rafsanjani at the time of his taking the oath of office are absolutely clear. The essence of them is: "We do not want to think about a war, or to fight an eternal war without reason. We want, and we are ready, to fulfill all the promises and articles of our Constitution. To this end, we shall mobilize all the valuable human, economic, geographical, and national resources of the rich and vast country, that is Iran, to increase production and to assist our dear people to benefit from the abundant God-given wealth of our country. Our people desire housing, essential goods, low prices, welfare, and so on, and this is their right, their birthright. However, if these people perceive that the attainment of these rights, in special circumstances, conflicts with their principles of independence and freedom, their national and Islamic honor and dignity, they will elect someone else."

Karrubi Receives USSR Congratulatory Message

LD0909220289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] A congratulatory message was cabled to Mr Karrubi on his appointment as Majlis speaker by the USSR's Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities. A Central News Unit report notes that this message reiterated the necessity to expand parliamentary ties to deepen and extend good-neighborly relations between Iran and the USSR.

Soviet Call for New Iranian Policy Rebuffed

PM1109161589 Tehran KEYHAN HAVAI in Persian 6 Sep 89 p 8

[Editorial: "The Request by Soviet Intellectuals for Iran To Give Up the Slogan of 'Neither West Nor East!'"]

[Text] Radio Peace and Progress, which can be heard broadcasting from Moscow, has editorially criticized Iran's foreign policy of "neither East nor West." It said: The plan for friendship arises as a result of the new ways of confronting internal and external issues in Iran. In addition to this, the plan reflects traditional values, including those that have come about during the past 10 years since the anti-monarchy revolution. It seems that the mixing of new methods and traditional experiences will remain a major problem for Iran's policymakers.

This radio station commenting on Iran's new cabinet, said: The planners of the regime's policies have stressed that the "neither East nor West" principle, in a traditional sense, will continue to mean that Iran—as in the past—will stay away from the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, the Warsaw Pact nations and NATO, and will continue to confront them. Today, however, these old ideas have lost their credibility.

Radio Peace and Progress went on to say: There are positive changes in the relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, the Warsaw Pact and NATO. Ideas and ideology along the traditional "bloc" lines give way to higher human values, and political methods of resolving international and regional issues replaced war. Struggle to create a nonnuclear world which is peaceful and ecologically safe is becoming more active across society and government. To ignore these changes and to insist on old and repeated ideas is wrong. In order for Iran to become more active in the struggle to improve international political scenes, it is necessary to change the traditional principle of neither East nor West.

The request of Radio Peace and Progress, in effect the request of Soviet intellectuals from a revolutionary people who have thrown imperialism out of their country, is quite amazing. This radio wants Iran to set aside the "neither East nor West" principle which is the spirit of rejecting the control of East or West, because the two superpowers have come closer to reaching an understanding. This means that Iran's presence in the international arena will be difficult without reliance on one of the two superpowers. Now that Iran wants to distance itself from the West, it would be natural for it to rely on the East politically.

This kind of reasoning has been put across in the past by the West, by presenting a dirty image of the East, of the Soviet Union. Now it seems that one of the results of an understanding between the two superpowers is that this logic has also found a footing in the Soviet Union.

Radio Peace and Progress and in effect Soviet intellectuals should know that the "neither East nor West" principle is one of the undeniable principles of the Islamic revolution. This same principle has shown the Islamic Republic to the rest of the world as an independent and nonaligned nation. Iran owes its political independence to this principle, and the "neither East nor West" policy guarantees the life of the nation and the independence of the revolutionary people of Iran.

Soviet Azarbayjanis Invited to Tabriz Ceremony

LD0709190889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the governor general of East Azarbayjan has extended an invitation to the inhabitants of Soviet Azerbaijan to participate in a ceremony given in tribute to the well-known Iranian poet, Master Shahryar, on the first anniversary of his demise. The ceremony is to be held on 18

September 1989, in Tabriz. According to the governor general of East Azarbayjan, the province has prepared itself to host 200 of those interested in Iranian literature from Soviet Azerbaijan. The Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Ministry has requested the Baku Consulate to expedite their travel arrangements. He said that these visitors will be guests of the East Azarbayjan Governerate, from 16 September for a period of 1 week. In the course of this period, the visitors, in addition to participating in the ceremony given in tribute to Master Shahryar, will take part in the 40th day of Imam Hosayn's martyrdom, visit holy places, and meet their relatives.

New UN Commander Inspects Cease-Fire Lines

LD1109171989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] The cease-fire lines in southern Iran were inspected today by General (Farson), the new commander of UN forces observing the cease-fire, stationed in Iran.

IRNA reported that yesterday, also, he attended an introduction meeting with other dispatched commanders. In that meeting he stressed the necessity of implementing Resolution 598, while paying tribute to the cooperation of Iranian commanders. He further declared the full readiness of UNIIMOG for safeguarding the ceasefire.

In the meeting, cases of abrogation of the cease-fire rules by Iraq were reported to the new commander of UNIIMOG forces in Iran. Further, the Iranian military commanders expressed their full readiness for all-embracing cooperation with UNIIMOG forces.

No Breakthrough Seen in 'Stalled' Peace Talks

NC1109181589 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 5 Sep 89

[Editorial: "Dim Hope for Breakthrough of Peace Talks"]

[Text] Apparently there is no breakthrough in sight on the stalled peace talks between Iran and Iraq. Our reason for surmising this way is based on current developments over the past few days and weeks.

Iran's Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati who is in Belgrade at the head of the Iranian delegation to the 9th Non-Aligned Movement Summit yesterday met with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and discussed ways on resuming the deadlocked peace negotiations. It is expected that the U.N. chief will meet Velayati's Iraqi counterpart to find a compromise and a way out of the present impasse.

Given the stances that both sides have been holding fast to during the past few months, the likelihood of any real breakthrough seems as yet very remote. Unless of course there is some movement in the U.N. chief's current efforts.

Iraq for its part insists stubbornly on face-to-face talks to chalk out a final settlement outside the pale of the U.N. auspices, or in other words unsupervised by the United Nations. Iran, however, continues to favor sticking to the sequence and very words of U.N. Resolution 598 and rejects any moves which ignore the role of the world body mediating to end the conflict.

Last month, the meeting of Iranian and Iraqi deputy foreign ministers with Jan Eliasson, the U.N. chief's special representative on the Iran-Iraq conflict failed to bring about any concrete results to fix terms and dates for a new round of peace negotiations.

Now again this time, it is most unlikely the ministers' meeting with the U.N. chief will change the trend of events any too drastically and all speculation points to the fact that there will not be any peace talks in the near future at least.

It is high time that the United Nations Security Council and the person of the secretary general himself took note of the fact that the main hurdle in the way of Resolution 598's implementation is the Iraqi occupation of Iranian land.

Until and unless this occupation which is against all principles of international jurisdiction is ended the prospects for peace and the prospects for talks which can be a working out towards peace will be dim indeed. Iran can negotiate on anything, but to be sure it will not on the question of allowing parts of its land to be occupied.

Navy Chief Queried, Praises Training Facilities

LD1109104589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0740 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Our reporter has interviewed Rear-Admiral Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan, the honorable commander of the Navy, on the training courses in the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We draw your attention to this interview.

[Begin Malekzadegan recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] In view of the many clashes that the navy had in the course of the war, it has been able to transform its training, particularly for the officers and NCOs while at the same time conducting operations in the sea and along our coasts. This transformation has enabled the Navy to meet its requirements in the field of training.

Before the victory of the Islamic revolution, I must say, we totally depended on foreign sources for training. I have said before—perhaps it was on this program or somewhere else—that a marine college was being created for us abroad, in the United States. They had made us so dependent, and we inherited a navy with this system and method of training. Well, obviously we needed to work

hard, have faith, and believe in the principle of self-sufficiency in training, in order to enable us to make a big jump in training. Praise be to God, our committed personnel rolled up their sleeves and worked day and night until we reached where we are today.

Where are we now? Currently, we have created all the units required by the Navy as far as military personnel and NCO cadres are concerned. A number of our dear combatants have joined these units, graduated, joined the fleet, and even took part in the war, and some of them were martyred. There are more than 20 training units, when there were no more than 2 or 3 units in the past. We performed this task in the course of the war, in addition to our operational tasks, because we believed that navy training should be transformed. Praise be to God we have been quite successful.

After the ratification of the new law, which made us dutybound to provide specialized training courses for all our personnel, we found it very difficult to create and activate all the 38 specialized training courses, be it in preparing the installations, equipment, training methods, books, lecturers, and the rest. All the personnel who needed training to graduate to a higher grade, in accordance with the law, need our resources. Frankly, our personnel in charge of the training departments, particularly in the special training centers in Anzali, Rasht, Hasanrud, and Qazian, worked hard and with the cooperation of the training management in the navy staff headquarters. They managed to begin courses for the specialist units in a short time; and now they are all active. The first degree course, which began last year, ended this year and the personnel have returned to their bases. This was a big jump that the Navy took and now all its specialist courses are active.

In connection with training the officer cadre, we have opened the university complex of Nowshahr. I dare say that it is unique in the country. That is, there is no other complex like it. If anyone claims to be able to match it, we are prepared to make a comparison. it is the only place with training facilities for marine engineering in the fields of mechanical and electronic engineering, marine logisics, warship marines, etc. The command unit [as heard] has various departments itself, including for training pilots, marines, sailors, etc—whatever we need. In addition to this, we are preparing masters courses. Think about it, there was no university like this before the revolution, when they intended to create one abroad, for lack of resources in our country or because of other problems which, you know, stem from abroad. Thanks to the efforts of our dear ones, we have these resources now and the graduates enjoy the highest degree of knowledge possible.

I was talhking to one of the organs for which we train officers and engineers, who said: In view of the fact that many of these graduates work on merchant vessels, where some of the commanders are foreigners, we are amazed to see such engineers and officers who can take charge in the sea, on board vessels, to work with the quality of training you have given them. The person who was talking to me was a German national, who told me: Even in Germany we cannot give them such high-quality training. Whereas they have a 100-year record in training, we only have a 7 or 8-year record since the revolution. In practice we began after 1981. This is something that the Navy is proud of. It is one of the most important achievements of the navy during the 10 years since the revolution. the issue of self-sufficiency in training has reached 100 percent now. The fact that the quality of our training has managed to inject a new blood into the navy by providing training up to the graduation level for NCOs, officers, and even the command staff, makes me see a very bright future for the Navy in this respect. [end recording]

Energy Minister Interviewed, Returns From Turkey

NC0909124989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Our country's energy minister, who had gone to Turkey to attend the fifth session of the conference of the foreign ministers and the first conference of the energy ministers of members of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], returned to Tehran yesterday.

In an exclusive interview with our correspondent, he referred to his speech at the conference as the representative of Asian countries and said: In this speech, reference was made to the poverty which increases daily in Islamic countries because the western program has implemented concerted programs, and emphasis was placed on the need for more unity and cooperation among Islamic countries. While expressing support for the Palestinian and Lebanese people, it was stressed that UN Security Council Resolution 598 should be fully implemented.

The energy minister added that during the ICO energy ministers' meeting, discussions were held on the need for and benefits of combining the electricity networks of Islamic countries, on transferring technology, on manufacturing spare parts and equipment needed by electricity generators, and on the Islamic Development Bank's assistance.

Saudi Daily Claims Iran Behind Egyptian Group

LD1109102189 Tehran IRNA in English 0925 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Athens, Sept. 11, IRNA—Saudi daily AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Sunday claimed to have information from "special sources" in Cairo that Tehran was behind the revival of Islamic group known as "Tafkir wa Hijrah."

The group had stopped its activities after its former leader Shukri Ahmad Mustafa was executed. He was accused of murdering the former awqaf minister of Egypt Husayn al-Dahabi in 1977, the paper, in a front page report, said.

Nineteen members of this group are being interrogated by the security prosecutor and it was revealed that "under the instruction of the Iranian leadership" the group was trying to export the Islamic revolution.

Four leaders of the Takfir group were among the 41 persons arrested last month accused of forming a pro-Iranian organisation to topple the Mubarak regime.

The daily named the four as Salim Mustafa Asibagh, Samir Mahmoud Mohammad Hilal, Abdul Munim Ahmad al-Kashfi and Ahmad Yusuf Ahmad Qandil [names as received].

SWAPO Leader Pays Visit, Talks With Leaders

Support for Namibia

LD0909201889 Tehran IRNA in English 1820 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 9, IRNA—The Islamic Republic of Iran Saturday reiterated its support for the struggles of the Namibian people against colonialism.

"Rest assured that we are beside you and ready to put our experiences at your disposal," President Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the visiting leader of the Southwest African People's Organisation (SWAPO) Sam Nujoma.

"We also attach great significance for the independence of Namibia and know that you will be facing many problems in the future," the president remarked.

Pointing to the strategic role of Namibia, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the colonialists would not leave the country so easily.

Nujoma hailed Iran for its support for the struggles of the Namibian people and said "we are always indebted to the Islamic Republic for its backing."

He also lauded the late leader of the Islamic Revolution and said his absence was a great loss both to the Iranians and the deprived and peace-loving people of the world.

First vice-president Hassan Habibi also received the SWAPO leader Saturday.

In that meeting Nujoma thanked Iran for its "positive stands" in support of SWAPO at international organisations.

He also briefed Habibi on the latest developments regarding the Namibian people's struggles.

In another meeting with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Nujoma described Iran as a "real non-aligned state which can play an effective role in helping the Third World countries."

Velayati said the continuation of the struggle against imperialism in Namibia after independence would be more complicated. "When you see the enemy, it is easier to fight him," he noted.

Referring to Iran's construction jihad activities in certain African states, Velayati expressed hope that the Islamic Republic would be able to extend necessary assistance to Namibia after the coming to power of a popular government there.

Nujoma arrived here Friday [8 September] from Belgrade for talks with Iranian officials. The SWAPO leader was in the Yugoslav capital to attend the ninth summit of the Non-aligned Movement.

$200,000 Donated to SWAPO

LD1009173789 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 10, IRNA—The Islamic republic of Iran put $200,000 at the disposal of the visiting head of the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) Sam Nujoma to be spent on healthy elections in the newly independent Namibia.

The elections are to be held on 6 November this year.

The SWAPO leader met and conferred with Minister of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics Akbar Torkan here Sunday. He also inspected a military industries' exhibit, where different types of weapons manufactured in Iran are on display.

Meanwhile Nujoma held talks with Higher Education Minister Mostafa Moin on the same day. At that meeting the Iranian minister expressed readiness to admit Namibian students to the Iranian universities.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is also ready to transfer its experiences in the field of construction and help the Namibian people in this area, Minister of Construction Jihad Gholam Reza Foruzesh told Nujoma in a separate meeting Sunday.

Nujoma Meets Ahmad Khomeyni

LD1109114189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Sam Nujoma, accompanied by a delegation and several Foreign Ministry officials met with Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni yesterday evening. In the course of this meeting, Sam Nujoma said: We, as the liberating warriors, were disciples of his holiness the imam and we received inspiration from him. We are grateful to you and to his holiness the imam, because the Iranian revolution assisted us financially and spiritually, and encouraged us to continue our struggle until victory. My colleagues and I are delighted to visit the place where his holiness the imam used to live; and I thank you for allowing us to see this historical building. We are returning to our country with the hope that we will have good future relations, and we hope that

the Islamic Republic of Iran will help us in the technical fields and in promoting independence; may our cooperation continue in every field.

Afterwards, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni said in welcome: There are few people in the world who have fully recognized the imam.

Referring to the imam's struggle on the domestic and external fronts, he said: On the domestic front, the imam was facing the counterrevolution which did not refrain from committing any crime, and we lost a number of our revolutionary brothers. But thanks to God's assistance, the imam succeeded in neutralizing all the internal conspiracies. On the external front, we faced some enemies in the region and across the world, headed by the United States. It used all its power to defeat our revolution. And the Western and the Eastern countries resorted to some wicked deeds too because we intended to run our country on the basis of neither East and nor West, in its true meaning.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni said: Standing beside you today we understand well what difficulties you are facing, and God willing, we shall assist you within the limits of our means. We shake your hand as a friend, and we pay tribute all your friends who have fought and been killed along this path. The imam concentrated all his efforts to free countries from the jackboot of the superpowers and he was always saying prayers for liberation movements.

Nujoma Ends Visit 11 Sep

LD1209045189 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA—Leader of the Southwest African People's Organisation (SWAPO) Sam Nujoma left Tehran at the end of three days of talks with high-ranking Iranian officials which he described as "constructive."

Speaking in an interview before departure, Nujoma expressed hope the Islamic republic would extend technical and economic assistance to Namibia after a popular government comes to power in the country.

He also said after Namibia's independence, the present SWAPO embassy in Tehran will function in the name of a Namibian embassy.

Nujoma arrived here Saturday morning at the head of a ranking SWAPO delegation and during his stay held talks with president, first vice-president, foreign minister, construction jihad minister, as well as a number of other Iranian officials. Issues of Africa and the future of Namibia were the focus of the talks.

After spending 30 years in exile, Nujoma returned home on a special flight provided by the Islamic republic, to arrange for parliamentary elections and formation of a new government.

Guards Discover Opium in Village, Make Arrests

LD0909101189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Excerpt] The guards of the Islamic Revolution Committee of the antinarcotics headquarters in Mashhad yesterday discovered 64 kg of opium in (Tangehshur) village near Sarakhs and arrested two professional international smugglers.

IRNA cites the public relations department of the Islamic Revolution Committee of Khorasan to the effect that the guards of that committee discovered during their inspection of 16 houses in Birjand, Kalat, Bojnurd, Darrehgaz, Quchan, and Sabzevar discovered 10 kg of opium, 30 grams of heroin and opium residue, 3 weapons, and 16 rounds of ammunition. In these operations 52 death merchants were arrested and were handed over the appropriate authorities.

According to another report from Shiraz, the Islamic Revolution Guards in the past month have discovered about 6 kg of narcotics from the merchants of death. [passage omitted]

Three Smugglers Arrested With Opium, Heroin

LD1009145689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 10 Sep 89

[Text] In the continuation of the fight against merchants of death, the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Committee [IRGC] yesterday arrested two smugglers, who had long criminal records, at Tehran's south terminal and seized 30.5 kg of opium from them.

In another report, the IRGC announced: Guards in Tehran's eighth district, after receiving reports from the public about widespread activities by smugglers in the Hafthowz District in Narmak [an eastern suburb of Tehra], arrested five smugglers and seized 40, 5 and 20 100-gram packets of heroin, 400 rolls of opium and several utensils for administering narcotics, 3 vehicles, and 780,000 rials in cash which had been obtained from the sale of narcotics.

IRNA Updates Narcotic Network Discoveries

LD0909161689 Tehran IRNA in English 1540 GMT 9 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 9, IRNA—Five international narcotics networks have been discovered and smashed in Tabriz by Islamic Revolution's Committee (IRC) Guards of East Azarbaijan Province since August 23rd.

Some 41 members of the gangs were arrested and a considerable amount of narcotics, foreign exchange, as well as some cheap video tapes were seized.

Some members of the groups had links with foreign drug smugglers.

Pakistan

Negotiations Completed for French Nuclear Plant

BK1309053289 Islamabad Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] An agreement will soon be signed with France for the construction of a 900-megawatts nuclear power plant in Pakistan. Speaking at a luncheon in Karachi yesterday, Dr Munir Ahmed Khan, the chairman of Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, said that negotiations in this connection have been completed and that France has expressed its willingness to assist Pakistan in implementing this much needed project. He also said that Pakistan is facing a power shortage, while its future progress and prosperity depend on its ability to end the shortage of electricity.

Scientists To Assess Nuclear Plant Damage

BK1309045889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Dr Munir Ahmed Khan has said the present elected democratic government has approved a comprehensive and systematic power generation plan under its socio-economic development program, whose early implementation is being given priority over everything else. Speaking at a luncheon in Karachi yesterday, he said Pakistan is facing a power shortage, while its future progress and prosperity depend on its ability to end the shortage of electricity.

He told newsmen that a high-powered scientists' delegation will visit Pakistan next week to assess the damage caused to the Karachi Nuclear Power Plant by the leakage of heavy water there recently. After a detailed inspection of the power plant, the team representing the International Energy Commission [as heard] will give the green light for the recommissioning of the plant which was closed after the heavy water leakage.

Daily Welcomes Indigenous Nuclear Reactor Plan

BK0909063489 Karachi DAWN in English 20 Aug 89 p 7

[Editorial: "Nuclear Energy Imperatives"]

[Text] The Government has approved a five-year plan for the development of engineering capability for the indigenous manufacture of nuclear reactors. The step is in keeping with the country's firm commitment to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and indicates the Government's determination to exercise all possible options to promote nuclear technology to overcome the crippling energy crisis. Utilising this option for scientific, industrial and economic development was and continues to be the main objective of Pakistan's nuclear programme. Considering the magnitude of the nation's future energy needs, there can be little doubt that nuclear energy provides the answer if the country is to face the challenges of the twenty-first century. At present, Pakistan's oil import bill is worth over a billion dollars in foreign exchange. Given the projected shortfall of 8,000 megawatts [MW] on the national grid by the turn of the century, the yawning gap between demand and supply will be difficult to bridge without nuclear energy meeting a large part of the demand build-up. Germane to the pursuit of the nuclear option is the recognition of the long-term cost effectiveness of atomic energy. The reliability of nuclear power in meeting pressing energy and economic needs can be gauged from the fact that till last year, 417 nuclear reactors were operating in 26 countries with a total generating capacity of 298,000 MW. In other words, nuclear power was contributing nearly 16 percent of the total energy generation in the world.

The Pakistan Government, cognisant of the national energy requirements and the use of nuclear technology for power production, has been utilising atomic energy for purposes of expanding basic research and technological development programmes to boost the country's economy. It has already made good progress in the development of nuclear technology in agriculture. NIAB-78, for example, is the most popular and high-yielding cotton variety, contributing 5.95 million bales to the total cotton production of 8.5 million bales. It is making good use of nuclear technology for cancer treatment in nine regional centres. Pakistan's efforts to manufacture nuclear power plants through indigenous means as well as with international cooperation are, therefore, of a piece with its policy to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in various fields.

But more significant than this unwavering adherence to these laudable objectives has been Pakistan's commitment not to use nuclear technology for military purposes. Although doubts have at times been expressed about the peaceful nature of its nuclear programme, by and large a healthy change in the attitude of many States towards Pakistan has been visible of late. In the recent past, Pakistan has been accepted as a member of two significant organisations concerned with information relating to operating experience and supply of nuclear power plants. The World Association of Nuclear Operators comprises all major nuclear energy utilities in more than 25 countries. Pakistan is also a member of the Canadian Deuterium Uranium Owners Group, including countries which own and operate Candu-type reactors. Similarly, some countries, which had earlier looked upon Pakistan's nuclear programme with suspicion, have begun to appreciate the primacy of this country's nuclear power needs. France, for example, has realised Pakistan's difficulties in this regard and has expressed its readiness to help resolve them. Also, President Bush has accepted assurances from Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto that her country is not engaged in developing nuclear weapons. The continuation of the aid package and the recent approval of Pakistan's request for 60 F-16 aircraft make it likely that President Bush will be able to make the annual certification that this country does not possess a

nuclear device. The approval, thus, of the five-year plan to make nuclear reactors within the country represents a positive development not only in the context of efforts to overcome chronic energy shortages, but also for ensuring the application of nuclear energy to peaceful uses.

Paper Urges Better Relations With USSR

BK1009084989 Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu 29 Aug 89 p 3

[Editorial: "The Soviet Union's Interest in Democracy in Pakistan"]

[Text] Addressing a press conference in Islamabad on his return from Moscow, the minister of state for information and broadcasting, Javed Jabbar, said his visit would help the two countries understand each other better. He said the Soviet Union is deeply interested in the restoration and stability of democracy in Pakistan. The minister said that in the Soviet Union society is also being transformed into a democratic framework and both countries view this vital principle in the same way. He said the Soviet Union expects that while keeping the changing trends of the world in view, Pakistan will seek a solution to the Afghanistan issue.

The Soviet Union is in an era of reform. It has granted freedoms to the media, and is passing through the process of restructuring and molding society in a democratic framework. We feel that in this way the Soviet Union is coming closer to the South Asian countries on ideological lines.

Although because of the Afghanistan issue a number of differences exist between Pakistan and the Soviet Union at the political level, as a result of the understanding and farsightedness of the leaders of the two countries these differences have not greatly affected economic and cultural relations between them. Now, the beginning of the process of reforms which give importance to democratic values in the Soviet Union has brought it ideologically closer to Pakistan. In our opinion, this desire of Soviet society to bring in democracy, and the expression of best wishes by the Soviet Union on the revival of democracy in Pakistan reflect apparent changes in the way of thinking of the Soviet leadership. Now the differences on the political level between Pakistan and the Soviet Union should not be as intense as before following the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

The situation has rapidly changed since the Soviet troops' pullout in February this year and the restoration of democracy in Pakistan. Various important personalities from the present elected government in Pakistan have visited the Soviet Union during the past 8 months or so and thus the contacts between the democratic government and this global power have become more effective.

Pakistan should create a balance between the two superpowers. The efforts of the government to improve the economy of the country and to encourage foreign investments in the country are praiseworthy. However, it is essential that the Soviet Union should also be included in these efforts. The Soviet Union should be encouraged to invest in Pakistan. The pertinent issue before Pakistan now is the eradication of unemployment. Industries should be promoted and the gross national product increased. If the Soviet Union can cooperate with Pakistan in realizing these objectives, it will be in the interest of the nation to welcome this cooperation. We hope that the present government will spare no efforts in taking constructive steps to revive external relations and the national economy.

Natural Gas Deposit Discovered in Upper Sind

BK3009111089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] A natural gas deposit has been discovered at Kalandri area in Khairpur in Sind. Under a combined project, Oil and Gas Development Corporation and three foreign oil and gas firms worked on the discovery of the gas. This is the first gas deposit in Upper Sind and it has increased the possibilities for more gas deposits in the Nawabshah, Sukkur, Larkana, and Khairpur Districts.

The federal minister for petroleum and natural resources, Jahangir Badar, announced this at a news conference in Karachi last night. He said initial experiments show that the quality of the gas is better and it is free from the mixture of sulphur. About 28 million cubic feet of gas is expected to be exploited annually. The gas deposit is about 60 km away from the gas transmission line, which will help in quickly developing it with less expense. This is the fourth major discovery in the current year and is the first gas well; oil was discovered in the other three wells.

Sri Lanka

Reportage on Government's All-Party Conference

EPRLF Objects to LTTE at Talks

BK1209040289 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 11 Sep 89

[Text] The vice chancellor of a Sri Lankan university was shot dead today in a Colombo suburb as the violent incidents elsewhere left at least 30 dead. The vice chancellor, Professor C. Patuvathavithana, was shot this morning by unknown gunmen minutes after he reached his office at Moratuwa University. The Sri Lankan police said JVP [Janatha Vimukhti Peramuna] men were responsible for the killing. Before storming into his office, the gunmen shot the university security chief at the campus entrance. Professor Patuvathavithana was the second senior university official killed this year by JVP men.

Elsewhere in the island nation, 29 others were killed in continuing violence. Sixteen of them were civilians.

They included a family of six who were hacked and shot dead in southern Matara. In other incidents, security forces shot dead three subversives in two separate encounters. Over 300 people were taken into custody for interrogation.

In the northeast, five Indian Peacekeeping Force [IPKF] soldiers were killed today when their vehicle was ambushed by LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] men in Amparai District.

Last week, 13 militants were killed and 10 injured in operations of the IPKF in the Northeastern Province. A press release of the Indian High Commission in Colombo today said that three persons were also captured during the operation.

As the Sri Lankan Government is preparing for an all-party conference on Wednesday, the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front [EPRLF] has raised a technical objection to the participation of the LTTE in the conference. The party MP [member of Parliament], Mr (Yogashankara), said that the LTTE is not a registered political party and so it could not participate in the talks. In an earlier statement, the LTTE had said that it would take part in the conference only as an observer.

JVP Not To Attend

BK1209125389 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] In Sri Lanka, gunmen shot dead Mrs Gladys Jayewardene, the sister-in-law of the former president, Mr Jayewardene, in Colombo today. Mrs Gladys Jayewardene was going home for lunch from her office in a car when attacked by two motor-borne gunmen. She was the chairperson of the State Pharmaceutical Corporation.

In other developments in the island, some political parties and groups invited for peace talks by the president, Mr Premadasa, have indicated their willingness to participate in the conference tomorrow. Our Colombo correspondent Plabon Majumder reports that these include the Sri Lankan Freedom Party, the EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front], Muslim Congress, the Mahajana Eksath Peramuna, EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students], TULF [Tamil United Liberation Front], Tamil Congress, PLOTE [People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam], and LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam].

According to PTI, the JVP [Janatah Vimukhti Peramuna] will not participate in the conference.

SLFP To Attend Conference

BK1209135589 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] All arrangements for the all-party conference fixed for tomorrow at the BICH [Bandaranaike International Conference Hall] are now finalized. Informed sources said 15 political parties have so far indicated that they will participate at the conference. They include the main opposition parties in Parliament as well as parties not represented in the present Parliament.

The Central Committee of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party [SLFP] met yesterday to review the situation arising from the discussions between his excellency the president and the delegations of the five opposition parties in Parliament which met him on the 8th instant. The meeting was presided over by Mrs Sirimavo R.D. Bandaranaike.

The Central Committee discussion centered on the proposals made by the five parties and the president this morning. The committee took into account the main features of the proposals which were aimed at restoring peace and revitalizing the economy. The committee was conscious of the fact that the termination of the executive Presidency and the establishment of a provisional government charged with the restoration of normalcy and parliamentary democracy was primarily directed to that end culminating in the holding of free and fair elections. This will enable all sections of society to join the democratic process.

The Sri Lanka Freedom Party is fully alive with its responsibility to participate in the process of bringing an end to the carnage, particularly of our youth, the fear-psychosis and the disintegration of our society. The provisional government was conceived as a temporary (?caretaker) of among the representatives of the people in Parliament in order to achieve the object already stated.

The security of the country is so desperate that ordinary people in the villages are unable to sleep peacefully in their homes for fear of being taken away and killed. They are unable to attend to their day to day affairs and as a result are in direct threat. As the country has arrived at such a critical juncture, we consider it our duty to do our utmost to promote peace and harmony. It is this sense of responsibility that prompted the party to join in making the above proposals and to meet the president and now to decide to attend the meeting summoned by the president on the 13th of this month.

All-Party Conference Begins

BK1309074289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the all-party conference to establish peace and normalcy in the island has begun. It was inaugurated by the president, Mr Premadasa, this morning. All major political parties are attending the conference. Agency reports however say that the extremist outfit, JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna], has declined to attend the conference.

10-Day Schedule Drawn Up

BK1309091389 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] The Sri Lankan president has said that delegates attending the all-party conference at Colombo should identify the root causes of the present conflict in the country and suggest remedial measures. Mr Premadasa made a special appeal to all those who are now outside the democratic process to return to the mainstream and join this dialogue. The Sri Lankan president expressed confidence that the present violence and crisis in the country can be overcome collectively. Opening the all-party conference in Colombo this morning, Mr Premadasa hoped that the conference will be a successful forum for the realization of the objectives of reconciliation and unity among all people. He requested all parties to approach him with proposals as comprehensive as possible. Mr Premadasa said he will welcome everyone to participate in the debate so that the whole spectrum of issues is thoroughly discussed. This, he said, will help to find a genuine solution.

Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, reports that a 10-day schedule has been drawn up starting from Monday [18 September] for consultations between the Sri Lankan president and the political parties and groups attending the conference.

The all-party conference will again meet on the 12th of next month. It has been adjourned by the president, Mr Premadasa, till that date. All major political parties and groups, a total of 21 of them, are attending the conference. The LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] was represented by Mr Yogi and Mr Tilagar in today's sitting. The JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] did not participate.

Speaking to newsmen later, the adviser to the president, Mr Bradman Weerakoon, said that the president expects that the JVP will accept the offer to enter into a dialogue to join the democratic process. He said the message of reconciliation which comes out of this forum is a very strong one and the JVP will respond to it.

23 Subversives Surrender; 3 Arrests Made

BK1209140389 Colombo Domestic Service in Tamil 1230 GMT 12 Sep 89

[Text] Twenty-three subversives surrendered to the security forces over the last 24 hours. Three suspects were arrested in Colombo District. During their search operations in (Pokkondala), (Purankanda), (Irulappanai), Kottawa, and Wedikanda areas, the security forces seized pistols, ammunition, seven shotguns, cartridges, three (?rifles) and 10 homemade grenades.

The security forces apprehended one suspect in (Emmadugama) and Galapitimada areas in the Kegalle District areas and seized a double barrel gun, some explosives and a hand grenade. Four persons were arrested on suspicion in [place name indistinct] in Hambantota District and two shotguns, cartridges, and two homemade pistols were recovered from their possession.

Thirteen subversives surrendered to the security forces in (Talakuli) and (Karigama) in Kandy District. Security forces arrested six suspects in Ambawala in Nuwara Eliya District, and seized a revolver, a shotgun, cartridges, and country-made pistols.

Nine more subversives surrendered at the security forces camp in Anuradhapura.

Curfew which will come into effect from 2300 [1730 GMT] tonight will be relaxed at 0400 tomorrow morning.